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THE KANSAS QUESTION.

The Administration and the Lecompton Constitutional Convention.

Speech of Hon. Stephen A. Douglas in the United States Senate.

The Debate Between Senators Bigler and Douglas.

We published yesterday a telegraphic abstract of Senator DOUGLAS' speech, delivered on Wednesday, in denunciation of the action of the Kansas Constitutional Convention, and also of the debate which followed between Senators BIGLER and DOUGLAS. Their importance warrants us in giving them this morning in full:

SENATE....WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 9.

On motion of Mr. DOUGLAS, the Senate resumed the consideration of the motion made by him yesterday, to print the President's Message and accompanying documents, with fifteen thousand extra copies.

Mr. DOUGLAS—Mr. President, when yesterday the President's Message was read at the Clerk's desk, I heard it but imperfectly, and I was of the impression that the President of the United States had approved and indorsed the action of the Lecompton Convention in Kansas. Under that impression, I felt it my duty to state that, while I concurred in the general views of the Message, yet, so far as it approved or indorsed the action of that Convention, I entirely dissented from it, and would avail myself of an early opportunity to state my reasons for my dissent. Upon a more careful and critical examination of the Message, I am rejoiced to find that the President of the United States has not recommended that Congress shall pass a law to receive Kansas into the Union under the Constitution formed at Lecompton. It is true that the tone of the Message indicates a willingness on the part of the President to sign any bill that Congress may pass, if we shall see proper to pass one receiving Kansas into the Union under that Constitution. But, Sir, it is a fact of great significance, and worthy of consideration, that the President has refrained from the indorsement of the Convention, and from any recommendation as to the course Congress should pursue with regard to the Constitution there formed.

The message of the President has made an argument—an unanswerable argument in my opinion—against that Constitution, which shows clearly, whether intended to arrive at that result or not, that, consistently with his views and his principles, he cannot accept that Constitution. He has expressed his deep mortification and disappointment that the Constitution itself has not been submitted to the people of Kansas for their acceptance or rejection. He informs us that he has unqualifiedly expressed his opinions on that subject in his instructions to Governor WALKER, assuming, as a matter of course, that the Constitution was to be submitted to the people before it could have any vitality or validity. He goes further, and tells us that the example set by Congress in the Minnesota case, by inserting a clause in the enabling act requiring the Constitution to be submitted to the people, ought to become a uniform rule, not to be departed from hereafter in any case. On these various propositions I agree entirely with the President of the United States, and I am prepared now to sustain that uniform rule which he asks us to pursue, in all other cases, by taking the Minnesota provision as our example.

I rejoice, on a careful perusal of the message, to find so much less to dissent from than I was under the impression there was, from the hasty reading and the imperfect hearing of the message in the first instance. In effect, he refers that document to the Congress of the United States—as the Constitution of the United States refers it—for us to decide upon it under our responsibility. It is proper that he should have thus referred it to us a matter for Congressional action, and not as an Administration or Executive measure, for the reason that the Constitution of the United States says that "Congress may admit new States into the Union." Hence we find the Kansas question before us now, not as an Administration measure, not as an Executive measure, but as a measure coming before us for our free action, without any recommendation or interference directly, or indirectly, by the Administration now in possession of the Federal Government. Sir, I propose to examine this question calmly and fairly, to see whether or not we can properly receive Kansas into the Union with the Constitution formed at Lecompton.

The President, after expressing his regret and mortification and disappointment, that the Constitution had not been submitted to the people in pursuance of his instructions to Governor WALKER, and in pursuance of Governor WALKER'S assurances to the people, says, however, that by the Kansas-Nebraska act the Slavery question only was required to be referred to the people, and the remainder of the Constitution was not thus required to be submitted. He acknowledges that, as a general rule, on general principles, the whole Constitution should be submitted; but according to his understanding of the organic act of Kansas, there was an imperative obligation to submit the Slavery question for their approval or disapproval, but no obligation to submit the entire Constitution. In other words, he regards the organic act, the Nebraska bill, as having made an exception of the Slavery clause, and provided for the disposition of that question in a mode different from that in which other domestic or local, as contradistinguished from Federal questions should be decided. Sir, permit me to say, with profound respect for the President of the United States, that I conceive that on this point he has committed a fundamental error, an error which lies at the foundation of his whole argument on this matter. I can well understand how that distinguished statesman came to fall into this error. He was not in the country at the time the Nebraska bill was passed; he was not a party to the controversy, and the discussion that took place during its passage. He was then representing the honor and the dignity of the country with great wisdom and distinction at a foreign court. Thus deeply engrossed, his whole energies were absorbed in conducting great diplomatic questions that diverted his attention from the mere territorial questions and discussions then going on in the Senate and House of Representatives, and before the people at home. Under these circumstances he may well have fallen into an error, radical and fundamental as it is, in regard to the object of the Nebraska bill and the principle asserted in it.

Now, Sir, what was the principle enunciated by the authors and supporters of that bill when it was brought forward? Did we not come before the country and say that we repealed the Missouri restriction for the purpose of substituting and carrying out as a general rule the great principle of self-government, which left the people of each State and each Territory free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the Constitution of the United States? In support of that proposition, it was argued here, and I have argued it wherever I have spoken in various States of the Union, at home and abroad, everywhere I have endeavored to prove that there was no reason why an exception should be made in regard to the Slavery question. I have appealed to the people if we did not all agree, men of all parties, that all other local and domestic questions should be submitted to the people. I said to them, "We agree that the people shall decide for themselves what kind of a judiciary system they will have; we agree that the people shall decide what kind of a school system they will establish; we agree that the people shall determine for themselves what kind of a banking system they will have, or whether they will have any banks at all; we agree that the people may decide for themselves what shall be the elective franchise in their respective States; they shall decide for themselves what shall be the rule of taxation and the principles upon which their finance shall be regulated; we agree that they may decide for themselves the relations between husband and wife, parent and child, guardian and ward; and why should we not, then, allow them to decide for themselves the relations between master and servant? Why make an exception of the Slavery question by taking it out of that great rule of self government which applies to all the other relations of life?" The very first proposition in the Nebraska bill was to show that the Missouri restriction, prohibiting the people from deciding the Slavery question for themselves, constituted an exception to a general rule, in violation of the principle of self-government, and hence, that that exception should be repealed, and the Slavery question, like all other questions, submitted to the people, to be decided for themselves.

Sir, that was the principle on which the Nebraska bill was defended by its friends. Instead of making the Slavery question an exception, it removed an odious exception which before existed. Its whole object was to abolish that odious objection, and make the rule general, universal, in its application to all matters which were local and domestic, and not national or federal. For this reason was the language employed which the President has quoted, that the 8th section of the Missouri act, commonly called the Missouri Compromise, was repealed because it was repugnant to the principle of non-intervention established by the compromise measures of 1850, "it being the true intent and meaning of this act not to legislate Slavery into any Territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the Constitution of the United States." We repealed the Missouri restriction because that was confined to Slavery. That was the only exception there was to the general principle of self-government. That exception was taken away for the avowed and express purpose of making the rule of self-government general and universal, so that the people should form and regulate all their domestic institutions in their own way.

Sir, what would this boasted principle of popular sovereignty be worth, if it applied only to the negro, and did not extend to the white man? Do you think we could have aroused the sympathies and the patriotism of this broad Republic, and have carried the Presidential election last year in the face of a tremendous opposition, on the principle of extending the right of self-government to the negro question, but denying it to all the relations affecting white men. No, Sir. We aroused the patriotism of the country and carried the election in defence of that great principle, which allowed all white men to form and regulate their domestic institutions to suit themselves—institutions applicable to white men as well as to black men—institutions applicable to freemen as well as to slaves—institutions concerning all the relations of life, and not the mere paltry exception of the Slavery question. Sir, I have spent too much strength and breath, and money too, to establish this great principle in the popular heart, now to see it frittered away by bringing it down to an exception that applies to the negro, and does not extend to the benefit of the white man. As I said before, I can well imagine how the distinguished and eminent patriot and statesman now at the head of the Government fell into an error—for error it is, radical, fundamental—and, if persevered in, subversive of that platform upon which he was elevated to the Presidency of the United States.

Then, if the President be right in saying that, by the Nebraska bill, the Slavery question must be submitted to the people, it follows inevitably that every other clause of the constitution must also be submitted to the people. The Nebraska bill said that the people should be left "perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way"—not the Slavery question, not the Maine liquor-law question, not the banking question, not the school question, not the railroad question, but "their domestic institutions," meaning each and all the questions which are local, not national, State nor Federal. I arrive at the conclusion that the principles enunciated so boldly, and enforced with so much ability by the President of the United States, require us, out of respect to him and the platform on which he was elected, to send this whole question back to the people of Kansas, and enable them to say whether or not the Constitution which has been framed, each and every clause of it meets their approbation. The President, in his message, has made an unanswerable argument in favor of the principle which requires this question to be sent back. It is stated in the message, with more clearness and force than any language which I can command; but I can draw your attention to it and refer you to the argument in the message, hoping that you will take it as a part of my speech—as expressing my idea more forcibly than I am able to express it. The President says that a question of great interest, like the Slavery question, cannot be fairly decided by a convention of delegates, for the reason that the delegates are elected in districts, and in some districts a delegate is elected by a small majority; so that it often happens that a majority of the delegates are one way, while a majority of the people are the other way; and therefore it would be unfair, and inconsistent with the great principle of popular sovereignty, to allow a body of delegates, not representing the popular voice, to establish domestic institutions for the mass of the people. This is the President's argument to show that you cannot have a fair and honest decision without submitting it to the popular vote. The same argument is conclusive with regard to every other question as well as with regard to Slavery.

But, Mr. President, it is intimated in the message that although it was an unfortunate circumstance, much to be regretted, that the Lecompton Convention did not submit the Constitution to the people, yet perhaps it may be treated as regular, because the Convention was called by a Territorial Legislature, which had been repeatedly recognized by the Congress of the United States as a legal body. I beg Senators not to fall into an error as to the President's meaning on this point. He does not say, he does not mean, that this Convention had ever been recognized by the Congress of the United States as legal or valid. On the contrary, he knows, as we here know, that during the last Congress I reported a bill from the Committee on Territories to authorize the people of Kansas to assemble and form a Constitution for themselves. Subsequently, the Senator from Georgia (Mr. TOOMBS) brought forward a substitute for my bill, which, after having been modified by him and myself in consultation, was passed by the Senate. It is known in the country as "the Toombs bill." It authorized the people of Kansas Territory to assemble in Convention and form a Constitution preparatory to their admission into the Union as a State. That bill, it is well known, was defeated in the House of Representatives. It matters not, for the purpose of this argument, what was the reason of its defeat. Whether the reason was a political one, whether it had reference to the then existing contest for the Presidency; whether it was to keep open the Slavery question; whether it was a conviction that the bill would not be fairly carried out; whether it was because there were not people enough in Kansas to justify the formation of a State;—no matter what the reason was, the House of Representatives refused to pass that bill, and thus denied to the people of Kansas the right to form a Constitution and State Government at this time. So far from the Congress of the United States having sanctioned or legalized the Convention which assembled at Lecompton, it expressly withheld its assent. The assent has not been given, either in express terms or by implication; and being withheld, this Kansas Constitution has just such validity and just such authority as the Territorial Legislature of Kansas could impart to it without the assent, and in opposition to the known will, of Congress. Now, Sir, let me ask what is the extent of the authority of a Territorial Legislature as to calling a Constitutional Convention without the assent of Congress. Fortunately this is not a new question; it does not now arise for the first time. When the Topeka Constitution was presented to the Senate nearly two years ago, it was referred to the Committee on Territories, with a variety of measures relating to Kansas. The Committee made a full report upon the whole subject. That report reviewed all the irregular cases which had occurred in our history in the admission of new States. The Committee went on to the supposition, that whenever Congress had passed an enabling act authorizing the people of a Territory to form a State Constitution, the Convention was regular, and possessed all the authority which Congress had delegated to it, but whenever Congress had failed or refused to pass an enabling act, the proceeding was irregular and void, unless vitality was imparted to it by a subsequent act of Congress adopting and confirming it. The friends of the Topeka Constitution insisted that although their proceedings were irregular, they were not so irregular but that Congress could cure the error by admitting Kansas with that Constitution. They cited a variety of cases—amongst others the Arkansas case. In my report, sanctioned by every member of the Committee on Territories, except the Senator from Vermont, (Mr. COLLAMER,) I reviewed the Arkansas case as well as the others, and affirmed the doctrine established by General JACKSON'S administration, and enunciated in the opinion of Mr. Attorney-General BUTLER, a part of which opinion was copied into the report and published to the country at the time. Now, Sir, in order to ascertain what we understood on the 12th of March, 1856—little more than a year and a half ago—to be the true doctrine on this point, let me call your attention to the opinion of Mr. BUTLER in the Arkansas case. The Governor of the Territory of Arkansas sent a printed address to to President JACKSON, in which he stated that he had been urged to call together the Legislature of the Territory of Arkansas, for the purpose of allowing them to call a convention to form a Constitution, preparatory to their admission into the Union as a State. The Governor stated that, in his opinion, the Legislature had no power to call such a convention without the consent of Congress had first been obtained, but he asked instructions on that point. The President referred the case to the Secretary of State, and he asked for the advice of the Attorney-General, whose opinion was given, and adopted as the plan of action, and communicated to the Governor of Arkansas for his instruction. I will read some extracts from that opinion:

"Consequently it is not in the power of the General Assembly of Arkansas to pass any law for the purpose of electing members to form a Constitution and State Government, or to do any other act, directly or indirectly, to create such new Government. Every such law, even though it were approved by the Governor of the Territory, would be null and void. If passed by them, notwithstanding his veto, by a vote of two-thirds of each branch, it would still be equally void.

If I am right in the foregoing opinion, it will then follow that the course of the Governor, in declining to call together the Territorial Legislature for the purpose in question, was such as his legal duties required; and that the views he has expressed in his public address, and also in his official communication to yourself, so far as they indicate an intention not to sanction or concur in any legislative or other proceedings towards the formation of a State Government until Congress shall have authorized it, are also correct."

This is what I have understood to be the settled doctrine as to the authority of a Territorial Legislature to call a Convention without the consent of Congress first had and obtained. The reasoning is very clear and palpable. A Territorial Legislature possesses whatever power its organic act gives it, and no more. The organic act of Arkansas provided that the legislative power should be vested in the Territorial Legislature, the same as the organic act of Kansas provides that the legislative power and authority shall be vested in the Legislature. But what is the extent of that legislative power? It is to legislate for that Territory under the organic act, and in obedience to it. It does not include any power to subvert the organic act under which it was brought into existence. It has the power to protect it, the power to execute it, the power to carry it into effect; but it has no power to subvert, none to destroy; and hence that power can only be obtained by applying to Congress, the same authority which created the Territory itself. But while the Attorney-General decided, with the approbation of the Administration of Gen. JACKSON, that the Territorial Legislature had no power to call a Convention, and that its action was void if it did, he went further:

"No law has yet been passed by Congress which either expressly or impliedly gives to the people of Arkansas the authority to form a State government."

Nor has there been any in regard to Kansas. The two cases are alike thus far. They are alike in all particulars so far as this question involving the legality and the validity of the Lecompton Convention is concerned. The opinion goes on to say:

"For the reasons above stated, I am, therefore, of opinion that the inhabitants of that Territory have not at present, and that they cannot acquire otherwise than by an act of Congress, the right to form such a government."

General JACKSON'S administration took the ground that the people of Arkansas, by the authority of the Territorial Legislature, had not the power to hold a convention to form a Constitution, and could not acquire it from any source whatever except from Congress. While, therefore, the legislative act of Arkansas was held to be void, so far as it assumed authority to authorize the calling of a convention to form a Constitution, yet they did not hold, in those days, that the people could not assemble and frame a Constitution in the form of a petition. I will read the rest of the opinion, in order that the Senate may understand precisely what was the doctrine on this subject at that day, and what the Committee on Territories understood to be the doctrine on this subject in March, 1856, when we put forth the Kansas report as embodying what we Nebraska men understood to be our doctrine at that time. Here it is. This was copied into that report:

"But I am not prepared to say that all proceedings on this subject, on the part of the citizens of Arkansas, will be illegal. They undoubtedly possess the ordinary privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States. Among these is the right to assemble and petition the Government for the redress of grievances. In the exercise of this right the inhabitants of Arkansas may peaceably meet together in primary assemblies, or in conventions chosen by such assemblies, for the purpose of petitioning Congress to abrogate the Territorial Government, and to admit them into the Union as an independent State. The particular form which they may give to their petition cannot be material, so long as they confine themselves to the mere right of petitioning, and conduct all their proceedings in a peaceable manner. And as the power of Congress over the whole subject is plenary and unlimited, they may accept any Constitution, however framed, which in their judgment meets the sense of the people to be affected by it. If, therefore the citizens of Arkansas think proper to accompany their petition with a written Constitution, framed and agreed on by their primary assemblies, or by a convention of delegates chosen by such assemblies, I perceive no legal objection to their power to do so, nor to any measures which may be taken to collect the sense of the people in respect to it; provided always, that such measures be commenced and prosecuted in a peaceable manner, in strict subordination to the existing Territorial Government, and in entire subserviency to the power of Congress to adopt, reject, or disregard them, at their pleasure."

While the Legislature of Arkansas had no power to create a convention to frame a Constitution, as a legal constitutional body, yet, if the people chose to assemble under such an act of the Legislature for the purpose of petitioning for redress of grievances, the assemblage was not illegal: it was not an unlawful assemblage; it was not such an assemblage as the military power could be used to disperse, for they had a right under the Constitution thus to assemble and petition. But if they assumed to themselves the right or the power to make a government, that assumption was an act of rebellion which General JACKSON said it was his duty to put down with the military force of the country. If you apply these principles to the Kansas Convention, you find that it had no power to do any act as a Convention forming a Government; you find that the act calling it was null and void from the beginning; you find that the Legislature could confer no power whatever on the Convention. The Convention was simply an assemblage of peaceable citizens, under the Constitution of the United States, petitioning for the redress of grievances, and, thus assembled, had the right to put their petition in the form of a Constitution if they chose; but still it was only a petition—having the force of a petition—which Congress could accept or reject, or dispose of as it saw proper. That is what I understand to be just the extent of the power and authority of this Convention assembled at Lecompton. It was not an unlawful assemblage like that held at Topeka; for the Topeka Constitution was made in opposition to the Territorial law, as I thought, intended to subvert the Government without the consent of Congress, but, as contended by their friends, not intended to subvert the Government without the consent of Congress. If their object was to subvert it without the consent of Congress, it was an act of rebellion, which ought to have been put down by force. If it was a peaceable assemblage simply to petition and abide the decision of Congress on the petition, it was not an unlawful assemblage. I hold, however, that it was an unlawful assemblage. I hold that this Lecompton Convention was not an unlawful assemblage; but, on the other hand, I hold that they had no legal power and authority to establish a Government. They had a right to petition for a redress of grievances. They had a right in that petition to ask for the change of Government from a Territorial to a State Government. They had a right to ask Congress to adopt the instrument which they sent to us as their Constitution; and Congress, if it thought that paper embodied the will of the people of the Territory, fairly expressed, might, in its discretion, accept it as a Constitution, and admit them into the Union as a State; or if Congress thought it did not embody the will of the people of Kansas, it might reject it; or if Congress thought it was doubtful whether it did embody the will of the people or not, then it should send it back and submit it to the people to have that doubt removed, in order that the popular voice, whatever it might be, should prevail in the Constitution under which the people were to live. So far as the act of the Territorial Legislature of Kansas calling this Convention was concerned, I have always been under the impression that it was fair and just in its provisions. I have always thought the people should have gone together *en masse* and voted for delegates, so that the voice expressed by the Convention should have been the unquestioned and united voice of the people of Kansas. I have always thought that those who staid away from that election stood in their own wrong, and should have gone and voted, and should have furnished their names to be put on the registered list, so as to be voters. I have always held that it was their own fault that they did not thus go and vote; but yet, if they chose, they had a right to stay away. They had a right to say that that Convention, although not an unlawful assemblage, is not a legal Convention to make a Government, and hence we are under no obligation to go and express any opinion about it. They had a right to say, if they chose, "We will stay away until we see the Constitution they shall frame, the petition they shall send to Congress; and when they submit it to us for ratification we will vote for it if we like it, or vote it down if we do not like it." I say they had a right to do either, though I thought, and think yet, as good citizens, they ought to have gone and voted: but that was their business and not mine. Having thus shown that the Convention at Lecompton had no power, no authority, to form and establish a government, but had power to draft a petition, and that petition, if it embodied the will of the people of Kansas, ought to be taken as such an exposition of their will, yet, if it did not embody their will, ought to be rejected—having shown these facts, let me proceed and inquire what was the understanding of the people of Kansas when the delegates were elected? I understand, from the history of the transaction, that the people who voted for delegates to the Lecompton Convention, and those who refused to vote—both parties—understood the territorial act to mean that they were to be selected only to frame a constitution, and submit it to the people for their ratification or rejection. I say that both parties in that Territory, at the time of the election of delegates, so understood the object of the Convention. Those who voted for delegates did so with the understanding that they had no power to make a government, but only to frame one for submission; and those who staid away did so with the same understanding. Now for the evidence. The President of the United States tells us, in his message, that he had unequivocally expressed his opinions, in the form of instructions to Governor WALKER, assuming that the Constitution was to be be submitted to the people for ratification. When we look at Governor WALKER'S letter of acceptance of the office of Governor, we find that he stated expressly that he accepted it with the understanding that the President and his whole Cabinet concurred with him that the Constitution, when formed, was to be submitted to the people for ratification. Then look into the instructions given by the President of the United States, through General CASS, the Secretary of State, to Governor WALKER, and you there find that the Governor is instructed to use the military power to protect the polls when the Constitution shall be submitted to the people of Kansas for their free acceptance or rejection. Trace the history a little further, and you will find that Governor WALKER went to Kansas and proclaimed, in his inaugural and in his speeches at Topeka and elsewhere, that it was the distinct understanding, not only of himself, but of those higher in power than himself—meaning the President and his Cabinet—that the Constitution was to be submitted to the people for their free acceptance or rejection, and that he would use all the power at his command to defeat its acceptance by Congress, if it were not thus submitted to the vote of the people. Mr. President, I am not going to stop and inquire how far the Nebraska bill, which said the people should be left perfectly free to form their Constitution for themselves, authorized the President, or the Cabinet, or General WALKER, or any other Territorial officer, to interfere and tell the Convention of Kansas whether they should or should not submit the question to the people. I am not going to stop to inquire how far they were authorized to do that, it being my opinion that the spirit of the Nebraska bill required it to be done. It is sufficient for my purpose that the Administration of the Federal Government unanimously, that the administration of the Territorial Government, in all its parts, unanimously understood the Territorial law under which the Convention was assembled to mean that the Constitution to be formed by that Convention should be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection, and, if not confirmed by a majority of the people, should be null and void, without coming to Congress for approval. Not only did the National Government and the Territorial Government so understand the law at the time, but, as I have already stated, the people of the Territory so understood it. As a further evidence on that point, a large number, if not the majority, of the delegates were instructed in the Nominating Conventions to submit the Constitution to the people for ratification. I know that the delegates from Douglas County, eight in number, Mr. CALHOUN, President of the Convention, being among them, were not only instructed thus to submit the question, but they signed and published, while candidates, a written pledge that they would submit it to the people for ratification. I know that men high in authority and in the confidence of the Territorial and National Government, canvassed every part of Kansas during the election of delegates, and each one of them pledged himself to the people that no snap judgment was to be taken; that the Constitution was to be submitted to the people, for acceptance or rejection; that it would be void unless that was done; that the Administration would spurn and scorn it as a violation of the principles on which it came into power, and that a Democratic Congress would hurl it from their presence, as an insu't to Democrats who stood pledged to see the people left free to form their domestic institutions for themselves. Not only that, Sir, but up to the time when the Convention assembled, on the 1st of September, so far as I can learn, it was understood everywhere that the Constitution was to be submitted for ratification or rejection. They met, however, on the 1st of September, and adjourned until after the October election. I think it wise and prudent that they should thus have adjourned. They did not wish to bring any question into that election which would divide the Democratic Party, and weaken our chances of success in the election. I was rejoiced when I saw that they did adjourn, so as not to show their hand on any question that would divide and distract the party until after the election. During that recess, while the Convention was adjourned, Governor RANSOM, the Democratic candidate for Congress, running against the present Delegate from that Territory, was canvassing every part of Kansas in favor of the doctrine of submitting the Constitution to the people, declaring that the Democratic Party were in favor of such submission, and that it was a slander of the Black Republicans to intimate the charge that the Democratic Party did not intend to carry out that pledge in good faith. Thus, up to the time of the meeting of the Convention, in October last, the pretence was kept up, the profession was openly made, and believed by me, and I thought believed by them, that the Convention intended to submit a Constitution to the people, and not to attempt to put a Government in operation without such submission. The election being over, the Democratic Party being defeated by an overwhelming vote, the Opposition having triumphed, and got possession of both branches of the Legislature, and having elected their Territorial Delegate, the Convention assembled and then proceeded to complete their work. Now let us stop to inquire how they redeemed the pledge to submit the Constitution to the people They first go on and make a Constitution. Then they make a schedule, in which they provide that the Constitution, on the 21st of December—the present month—shall be submitted to all the *bona fide* inhabitants of the Territory on that day, for their free acceptance or rejection, in the following manner, to wit: thus acknowledging that they were bound to submit it to the will of the people, conceding that they had no right to put it into operation without submitting it to the people, providing in the instrument that it should take effect from and after the date of its ratification, and not before; showing that the Constitution derives its vitality, in their estimation, not from the authority of the Convention, but from that vote of the people to which it was to be submitted for their free acceptance or rejection. How is it to be submitted? It shall be submitted in this form: "Constitution with Slavery or Constitution with no Slavery." All men must vote for the Constitution, whether they like it or not, in order to be permitted to vote for or against Slavery. Thus a Constitution made by a Convention that had authority to assemble and petition for a redress of grievances, but not to establish a government—a Constitution made under a pledge of honor that it should be submitted to the people before it took effect; a Constitution which provides, on its face, that it shall have no validity except what it derives from such submission—is submitted to the people at an election where all men are at liberty to come forward freely without hindrance and vote for it, but no man is permitted to record a vote against it. That would be as fair an election as some of the enemies of NAPOLEON attributed to him when he was elected First Consul. He is said to have called out his troops and had them reviewed by his officers with a speech, patriotic and fair in its professions, in which he said to them: "Now, my soldiers, you are to go to the election and vote freely just as you please. If you vote for NAPOLEON, all is well; vote against him, and you are instantly to be shot." That was a fair election. [Laughter.] This election is to be equally fair. All men in favor of the Constitution may vote for it—all men against it shall not vote at all. Why not let them vote against it? I presume you have asked many a man this question. I have asked a very large number of the gentlemen who framed the Constitution, quite a number of delegates, and a still larger number of persons who are their friends, and I have received the same answer from every one of them. I never received any other answer. What is that? They say if they allowed a negative vote the Consititution would have been voted down by an overwhelming majority, and hence the fellows shall not be allowed to vote at all. [Laughter.] Mr. President, that may be true. It is no part of my purpose to deny the proposition that that Constitution would have been voted down if submitted to the people. I believe it would have been voted down by a majority of four to one. I am informed by men well posted there—Democrats—that it would be voted down by 10 to 1; some say by 20 to 1. But is it a good reason why you should declare it in force, without being submitted to the people, merely because it would have been voted down by five to one if you had submitted it? What does that fact prove? Does it not show undeniably that an overwhelming majority of the people of Kansas are unalterably opposed to that Constitution? Will you force it on them against their will simply because they would have voted it down if you had consulted them? If you will, are you going to force it upon them under the plea of leaving them perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way? Is that the mode in which I am called upon to carry out the principle of self-government and popular sovereignty in the Territories—to force a Constitution on the people against their will, in opposition to their protest, with a knowledge of the fact, and then to assign, as a reason for my tyranny, that they would be so obstinate and so perverse as to vote down the Constitution if I had given them an opportunity to be consulted about it? Sir, I deny your right or mine to inquire of these people what their objections to that Constitution are. They have a right to judge for themselves whether they like or dislike it. It is no answer to tell me that the Constitution is a good one and unobjectionable. It is not satisfactory to me to have the President say in his Message that the Constitution is an admirable one, like all the Constitutions of the new States that have been recently formed. Whether good or bad, whether obnoxious or not, is none of my business and none of yours. It is their business and not ours. I care not what they have in their Constitution, so that it suits them and does not violate the Constitution of the United States and the fundamental principles of liberty upon which our institutions rest. I am not going to argue the question whether the banking system established in that Constitution is wise or unwise. It says there shall be no monopolies, but there shall be one bank of discount in the State, with two branches. All I have to say on that point is, if they want a banking system, let them have it; if they do not want it, let them prohibit it. If they want a bank with two branches, be it so; if they want twenty, it is none of my business; and it matters not to me whether one of them shall be on the north side and the other on the south side of the Kaw River, or where they shall be. While I have no right to expect to be consulted on that point, I do hold that the people of Kansas have the right to be consulted and to decide it, and you have no rightful authority to deprive them of that privilege. It is no justification, in my mind, to say that the provisions for the eligibility for the offices of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor require twenty years' citizenship in the United States. If men think that no person should vote or hold office until he has been here twenty years, they have a right to think so; and if a majority of the people of Kansas think that no man of foreign birth should vote or hold office unless he has lived there twenty years, it is their right to say so, and I have no right to interfere with them; it is their business, not mine; but if I lived there I should not be willing to have that provision in the Constitution without being heard upon the subject, and allowed to record my protest against it. I have nothing to say about their system of taxation, in which they have gone back and resorted to the old exploded system that we tried in Illinois, but abandoned because we did not like it. If they wish to try it and get tired of it and abandon it, be it so; but if I were a citizen of Kansas I would profit by the experience of Illinois on that subject, and defeat it if I could. Yet I have no objection to their having it if they want it; it is their business, not mine. So it is in regard to the free negroes. They provide that no free negro shall be permitted to live in Kansas. I suppose they have a right to say so if they choose; but if I lived there I should want to vote on that question. We, in Illinois, provide that no more shall come there. We say to the other States "take care of your own free negroes and we will take care of ours." But we do not say that the negroes now there, shall not be permitted to live in Illinois, and I think the people of Kansas ought to have the right to say whether they will allow them to live there, and if they are not going to do so, how they are to dispose of them. So you may go on with all the different clauses of the Constitution. They may be all right; they may be all wrong. That is a question on which my opinion is worth nothing. The opinion of the wise and patriotic Chief Magistrate of the United States is not worth anything as against that of the people of Kansas, for they have a right to judge for themselves, and neither Presidents, nor Senators, nor House of Representatives, nor any other power outside of Kansas has a right to judge for them. Hence, it is no justification, in my mind, for the violation of a great principle of self-government to say that the Constitution you are forcing on them is not particularly obnoxious, or is excellent in its provisions. Perhaps, Sir, the same thing might be said of the celebrated Topeka Constitution. I do not recollect its peculiar provisions. I know one thing: We Democrats, we Nebraska men, would not even look into it to see what its provisions were. Why? Because we said it was made by a political party, and not by the people; that it was made in defiance of the authority of Congress; that if it was as pure as the Bible, as holy as the ten commandments, yet we would not touch it until it was submitted to and ratified by the people of Kansas, in pursuance of the forms of law. Perhaps that Topeka Constitution, but for the mode of making it, would have been unexceptionable. I do not know; I do not care. You have no right to force an unexceptionable Constitution on a people. It does not mitigate the evil, it does not diminish the insult, it does not ameliorate the wrong that you are forcing a good thing on them. I am not willing to be forced to do that which I would do if I were left free to judge and act for myself. Hence I assert that there is no justification to be made for this flagrant violation of popular rights in Kansas, on the plea that the Constitution which they have made is not particularly obnoxious. But, Sir, the President of the United States is really and sincerely of the opinion that the Slavery clause has been fairly and impartially submitted to the free acceptance or rejection of the people of Kansas, and that, inasmuch as that was the exciting and paramount question, if they get the right to vote as they please on that subject they ought to be satisfied; and possibly it might be better if we would accept it, and put an end to the question. Let me ask, Sir, is the Slavery clause fairly submitted, so that the people can vote for or against it? Suppose I were a citizen of Kansas, and should go up to the polls and say, "I desire to vote to make Kansas a Slave State; here is my ballot." They reply to me, "Mr. DOUGLAS, just vote for that Constitution first, if you please." "Oh, no!" I answer, "I cannot vote for that Constitution conscientiously. I am opposed to the clause by which you locate certain railroads in such a way as to sacrifice my County and my part of the State. I am opposed to that banking system. I am opposed to this Know-Nothing or American clause in the Constitution about the qualification for office. I cannot vote for it." Then they answer, "You shall not vote on making it a Slave State." I then say, "I want to make it a Free State." They reply, "Vote for that Constitution first, and then you can vote to make it a Free State; otherwise you cannot." Thus they disqualify every Free-State man who will not first vote for the Constitution; they disqualify every Slave-State man who will not first vote for the Constitution. No matter whether or not the voters state that they cannot conscientiously vote for those provisions, they reply, "You cannot vote for or against Slavery here. Take the Constitution as we have made it, take the elective franchise as we have established it, take the railroad lines as we have located them, take the judiciary system as we have formed it, take it all as we have fixed it to suit ourselves, and ask no questions, but vote for it, or you shall not vote either for a Slave or a Free State." In other words, the legal effect of the schedule is this: All those who are in favor of this Constitution may vote for or against Slavery, as they please; but all those who are against this Constitution are disfranchised, and shall not vote at all. That is the mode in which the Slavery proposition is submitted. Every man opposed to the Constitution is disfranchised on the Slavery clause. How many are they? They tell you there is a majority, for they say the Constitution will be voted down instantly, by an overwhelming majority, if you allow a negative vote. This shows that a majority are against it. They disqualify and disfranchise every man who is against it, thus referring the Slavery clause to a minority of the people of Kansas, and leaving that minority free to vote for or against the Slavery clause, as they choose. Let me ask you if that is a fair mode of submitting the Slavery clause? Does that mode of submitting that particular clause leave the people perfectly free to vote for or against Slavery as they choose? Am I free to vote as I choose on the Slavery question, if you tell me I shall not vote on it until I vote for the Maine liquor law? Am I free to vote on the Slavery question, if you tell me that I shall not vote either way until I vote for a bank? Is it freedom of election to make your right to vote upon one question depend upon the mode in which you are going to vote on some other question which has no connection with it? Is that freedom of election? Is that the great fundamental principle of self-government, for which we combined and struggled, in this body, and throughout the country, to establish as the rule of action in all time to come? The President of the United States has made some remarks in his Message which, it strikes me, it would be very appropriate to read in this connection He says:

"The friends and supporters of the Nebraska and Kansas Act, when struggling on a recent occasion to sustain its wise provisions before the great tribunal of the American people, never differed about its true meaning on this subject. Everywhere throughout the Union they publicly pledged their faith and honor that they would cheerfully submit the question of Slavery to the decision of the *bona fide* people of Kansas, without any restriction or qualification whatever. All were cordially united upon the great doctrine of popular sovereignty which is the vital principle of our free institutions."

Mark this:

"Had it then been insinuated, from any quarter, that it would have been a sufficient compliance with the requisitions of the organic law for the members of a Convention, thereafter to be elected, to withhold the question of Slavery from the people, and to substitute their own will for that of a legally ascertained majority of their constituents, this would have been instantly rejected."

Yes, Sir, and I will add further, had it been then intimated from any quarter, and believed by the American people, that we would have submitted the Slavery clause in such a manner as to compel a man to vote for that which his conscience did not approve, in order to vote on the Slavery clause, not only would the idea have been rejected, but the Democratic candidate for the Presidency would have been rejected; and every man who backed him would have been rejected too.

The President tells us in his message that the whole party pledged our faith and our honor that the Slavery question should be submitted to the people, without any restriction or qualification whatever. Does this schedule submit it without qualification? It qualifies it by saying, "You may vote on Slavery if you will vote for the Constitution; but you shall not do so without doing that." That is a very important qualification—a qualification that controls a man's vote and his action and his conscience, if he is an honest man—a qualification confessedly in violation of our platform. We are told by the President that our faith and our honor are pledged that the Slavery clause should be submitted without qualification of any kind whatever; and now am I to be called upon to forfeit my faith and my honor in order to enable a small minority of the people of Kansas to defraud the majority of that people out of their elective franchise? Sir, my honor is pledged; and before it shall be tarnished, I will take whatever consequences personal to myself may come; but never ask me to do an act which the President, in his Message, has said is a forfeiture of faith, a violation of honor, and that merely for the expediency of saving the party. I will go as far as any of you to save the party. I have as much heart in the great cause that binds us together as a party as any man living. I will sacrifice anything short of principle and honor for the peace of the party; but if the party will not stand by its principles, its faith, its pledges, I will stand there, and abide whatever consequences may result from the position. Let me ask you, why force this Constitution down the throats of the people of Kansas, in opposition to their wishes and in violation of our pledges. What great object is to be attained? *Cui bono?* What are you to gain by it? Will you sustain the party by violating its principles. Do you propose to keep the party united by forcing a division? Stand by the doctrine that leaves the people perfectly free to form and regulate their institutions for themselves in their own way and your party will be united and irresistible in power. Abandon that great principle, and the party is not worth saving, and cannot be saved, after it shall be violated. I trust we are not to be rushed upon this question. Why shall it be done? Who is to be benefited? Is the South to be the gainer? Is the North to be the gainer? Neither the North nor the South has the right to gain a sectional advantage by trickery or fraud. But I am beseeched to wait until I hear from the election on the 21st of December. I am told that perhaps that will put it all right, and will save the whole difficulty. How can it? Perhaps there may be a large vote. There may be a large vote returned. [Laughter.] But I deny that it is possible to have a fair vote on the Slavery clause; and I say that it is not possible to have any vote on the Constitution. Why wait for the mockery of an election, when it is provided unalterably that the people cannot vote—when the majority are disfranchised? But I am told on all sides, "Oh, just wait; the Pro-Slavery clause will be voted down." That does not obvi

vention." I heard more than one of them say that even if the Convention should give to them the Topeka Constitution, word for word, and letter for letter, they would trample it in the dust, because they denied the authority of the law which the President of the United States was administering there. However unwisely members of the Convention may have acted—and I do not intend to defend the details of their action by any means—it will not do to say that there were no surrounding circumstances to impel them to such action. Probably if the Republicans had the power at that hour, they would have wielded it quite as unwarrantably. The declarations to which I have referred naturally begot retaliation. The answer was, "If you will not judge of this instrument why should it be submitted to you?" Now, Sir, I will say to the Senator from Illinois, in defence of his friend, the President of the Convention, whose idol he has almost been, that in all my intercourse with him I never heard from him an unreasonable or an unfair suggestion on the subject. He did say, and he did write, that he would agree to a submission of the Constitution to the people; but when he was told, "we will not judge of this," his views were different. He told me to say to the President of the United States that if this spirit was persisted in, if they were to be broken down simply to give the power to their enemies, and not because the Constitution was a bad one, he would not be bound to submit it. He held that under the organic act, and according to the common understanding of the country, they were under an obligation to submit the Slavery clause. That they did not submit it in a proper form I agree. It ought to have been, one way or the other, distinctly. They might have withheld the Constitution entirely, and avoided the difficulty which the Senator raised as to forcing a seeming assent to the Constitution. That, however, is somewhat of a theoretical difficulty, for I never heard any issue in Kansas, nor will the Senator hear any serious issue there as to the main features of the Constitution. The virtue of the submission is that it withholds the Constitution, except that portion which relates to Slavery.

The Senator is perfectly aware that as late as 1848, when a Constitution was formed for Illinois, the same monstrous outrage upon popular sovereignty was practiced, for a portion of that Constitution was put into operation without being submitted to the people. He was the able advocate of Mr. Toombs' bill, which did not emanate from the people of Kansas. They did not delegate their sovereignty in the first instance; they were not consulted at all; they had not petitioned for it; and yet the Senator advocated and voted for that bill. It provided for an election of delegates, named the times and places, and called together a Convention to whom the people of Kansas were to delegate their sovereignty. It did more, Sir. It put that Constitution into operation without ever consulting the people of Kansas. If the Senator's feelings had been awakened at that time as to the peculiar rights of the people of Kansas, he never could have voted for Mr. Toombs' bill. That was non-intervention—very peculiar, however. I was unwilling, as I remember, in the first instance, to go for a measure of this kind, because I thought it contravened the principle of non-intervention. Now, if I understand rightly the position of the Senator from Illinois, it comes down to this: Although the Constitution of Kansas, when presented here, may be Republican; though there may be in it no insurmountable objection; though it may be a reasonable instrument made by competent authority, in accordance with law and in the proper form, Kansas shall not come into the Union because this right thing was not done through a particular process. Is that consistent with the doctrine of non intervention? I deny the right of Congress to go behind the organic act, and inquire into all the details of how the people of Kansas have proceeded; but when Kansas presents herself for admission at the doors of Congress with a Republican Constitution, formed in order, according to law, the Senator from Illinois is about to say to those people, you shall not come into the Union because you did not do this right thing in the proper way. Sir, when the question involves the peace of the whole country, and, as I know, the prosperity of Kansas, I will not be pledged to say any such thing; but if the measure is right in itself, and if I can see that it imposes no great future wrong on the people of Kansas, in view of the peculiar circumstances which surround the case, the difficulty of getting any law properly administered there, the danger of leaving the question open, I will, so far as I have the power, assist to throw wide open the portals of the Union and welcome Kansas as a State, thus settling this bitter family feud forever. Sir, I do not intend to follow the subject further to-day. I thought, however, that some of the positions of the Senator from Illinois were so peculiarly forced that, though entirely unprepared, I should not, after the intimation I had given, do justice to myself if I allowed those remarks to pass unnoticed.

Mr. Mason—Mr. President, I do not mean to go into this debate, because it is now entirely upon questions purely abstract; but I think it due to the honorable Senator from Illinois, to whose remarks I have listened with great attention, to point out to him one, at least, of the fallacies contained in his argument. I use that term with entire respect; and I should be unjust to myself if I did not use it with entire respect to him, because all will admit that his speech was one of great strength and great power, but, in my conception, with great diffidence I say it, was of little moment—in its legal positions, and in its political conclusions, a series of monstrous fallacies. I only desire to point out one now. The honorable Senator said that the effect produced of necessity from the mode of submitting this subject to the people of Kansas was to disfranchise all who did not come to the polls prepared to vote for the Convention; and thus, he said, all who did vote, whether for or against Slavery, were compelled to vote for the Constitution, and those of either class who were not prepared to vote for the Constitution, must necessarily refrain from voting at all; and yet the honorable Senator complained—and it was the great staple of that part of his argument—that the Constitution was not submitted to be voted on. At one time he declared that it was withheld from the people; and again he declared that all who came to vote were necessarily obliged to vote for it. Now, I submit to the honorable Senator, how could a man be compelled to vote for that which was not submitted to him to be voted on at all?

Mr. Douglas—Did the Senator understand me to say that it was withheld?

Mr. Mason—So I understood.

Mr. Douglas—I said just the reverse.

Mr. Mason—The Senator certainly said they withheld everything from the people except the question of Slavery; and yet the Senator declared that whoever voted on the question of Slavery, whether for or against it, was obliged to vote for the Constitution; and the Senator drew the logical consequence that, of necessity, those who did not choose to vote for the Constitution were obliged to stay away and refuse to vote at all. That was his argument. Now, the fallacy I meant to point out was this: look at that Constitution and you will find that the Convention withheld the Constitution; it was not submitted to the people at all. Whether that was well done or ill done is another question; but the Constitution was withheld from the people, and the only question submitted to them was, whether they would establish or interdict Slavery? They might go there and vote upon that, and not vote or express any opinion whatever on anything else contained in the Constitution.

Mr. Douglas—I am sorry I was misapprehended by the Senator from Virginia. I certainly took the ground, first, that the Convention had no power to frame a government and put it in operation without submitting it to the people; secondly, that the convention showed a consciousness of that fact, by providing that it should be submitted to the people, and should take effect from and after the date of ratification. Hence, from that action of the Convention, whatever vitality the Constitution was ever to have, resulted, not from the Convention, but from a vote of the people. I then showed that while they acknowledged it would be void but for the ratification of the people, it provided that it should be submitted for free acceptance or rejection in the following form, and the form was such as to cut off all negative votes and only count the affirmative. That was my position—a position sustained by the Constitution itself. The Senator is entirely mistaken if he supposes that by the remotest inference he is authorized by that Constitution and schedule in saying they withheld it from the people. The schedule says, in so many words, "This Constitution shall be submitted to all the inhabitants in the Territory, on the day of election, for their acceptance or rejection, in the following form." This shows that they provide, not that it shall go into operation without submission, but that it shall be submitted, and they profess to submit it. They then cut off the negative votes, which, of course, makes a sure thing of it. That is my position. If the Senator from Virginia had understood it, I apprehend he would not have discovered any fallacy.

One word in reply to the gentleman from Pennsylvania ——

Mr. Bigler—If the Senator will allow me at this point, I wish to give some authority I have on the subject.

Mr. Douglas—I yield the floor.

Mr. Bigler—I desire simply to say that I was exceedingly anxious to understand the precise position of that question. It was difficult to tell, from the language of the schedule. Yesterday I asked Colonel Henderson, of Kansas—who was an active member of the Convention—what it meant. "Why," said he, "it means this: that there are two entire Constitutions, and the people vote separately for the Constitution without Slavery—the Constitution the Convention has formed—or the Constitution without Slavery." I understood him to say that there were two Constitutions precisely similar.

Mr. Douglas—If there are two Constitutions, as we have but one, I should like to see the other; and I want to know which one of the two the Senator from Pennsylvania is for, when he says he agrees with the President in going for both.

Mr. Bigler—I said they were precisely similar.

Mr. Douglas—If there are two copies of the same Constitution I can understand it, but that the Convention made two Constitutions precisely similar, I do not understand. But, if they did, what difference does it make? You may vote for this Constitution or the other one; but they are just alike, and you must take one or the other.

Mr. Bigler—One will make Kansas a free State, and the other will make it a slave State. That is the difference.

Mr. Douglas—You may vote for this or the other Constitution, and if you vote for either, you may vote on the Slavery question; but unless you do vote for one or the other of these Constitutions, you cannot vote on that subject. It makes no difference how many copies they made; the simple question is, do they allow the people to vote on the Slavery question, without casting a vote on any other subject? By that Constitution, you cannot vote on the Slavery question by itself. You are compelled to write on the ballot, "For the Constitution," as preliminary to voting. Your right to vote is then conditional, not free. But I did not rise for the purpose of controverting these questions. I was going to say a word or two to the Senator from Pennsylvania. He assumed an air in the opening of this discussion that I thought was entirely uncalled for, as if he wished rather to intimate to the Senator from Illinois that his bearing was not exactly right—an intimation of speaking by authority not authorized and not respected.

Mr. Bigler—Mr. President, I beg to say to the Senator from Illinois that in not one word that I uttered did I intend the slightest disrespect of that sort, nor do I wish the Senator from Illinois to mark me as speaking here except for myself. I express on this subject the views which I have deliberately made up. They concur generally, if not entirely, with those expressed by the President of the United States.

Mr. Douglas—I have not another word to say on the point on which I was speaking. The explanation of the Senator from Pennsylvania is conclusive on that point. It may be that I misunderstood the manner in which he treated the suoject: but, whether I did or not, his statement is conclusive with me. I was certain he did not speak for the President of the United States. I knew that, for the President had just spoken for himself, in language which condemned that Convention for not submitting the Constitution to the people, and he refuses to recommend that we should receive this Constitution. The absence of a recommendation clearly shows that it is not an Administration measure. Certainly the President is not going to have, as an Administration measure here, one to which he has not committed himself and his Cabinet. The President of the United States is a bold, frank man, and if he intends to give us an Administration measure, he will say so in so many words. He has not said so. It is not respectful to him to assume that he wants us to do that which he was not willing to recommend us to do in his annual message, when acting under the authority of the Constitution, which makes it his duty to recommend the measures which the public good requires. Hence, of course, I knew the Senator did not speak by authority, and I was going to deny his right to do so; but inasmuch as I misunderstood him, I have no comments to make.

Mr. Bigler—Will the Senator permit me a moment?

Mr. Douglas—Certainly.

Mr. Bigler—I think I am very safe in saying—and I believe that the Senator from Illinois will agree with me—that the President of the United States upholds the doctrine in his Message that that Convention had a right to form a Constitution; it had a right to submit it to the people of the Territory for their approval, or send it here for the approbation of Congress, and the admission of the State into the Union. I think it is very clearly deducible from the Message in addition, that the President of the United States does not think that the circumstance of not submitting the entire Constitution to a vote of the people should keep Kansas out of the Union if her Constitution is republican and right in all other respects. On that point we will agree. With that I understand the Senator from Illinois to take issue.

Mr. Douglas—I infer from the message that the President of the United States does hold that that Convention had a right to frame a Constitution and send it up here; but that was under the right to petition for the redress of grievances under the Constitution of the United States, and not because the Legislature of the Territory had the power to constitute that a legal Constitutional Convention.

Mr. Bigler—Where do you find that?

Mr. Douglas—Yesterday a speech was read to this body, showing that the President had held that doctrine twenty years ago, and he has never disavowed it since. In that speech the President declared that a Territorial Legislature had no power to create a Convention to form a Constitution; and that, if they attempted to exercise such a power, it would be an act of usurpation—a high crime—a crime subject to impeachment. The President has held these doctrines for twenty years. He held them at the same time that General Jackson's Administration held them in regard to the Arkansas case. The Democratic Party had held them ever since. I have proved to-day that the Democratic Party, so far as it is bound by our action one year and a half ago, asserted the same doctrine that Kansas now does. The report which I made from the Committee on the Territories, I firmly believed then that that committee was a faithful exponent of the views of the Kansas-Nebraska Party. In that report we set forth that doctrine, and, as the Senator well knows, we published and circulated during the campaign, in order to elect Mr. Buchanan, three hundred thousand copies of that report as a party document. I paid for one hundred thousand copies of them myself. I never heard it intimated that the doctrine then expounded, and on which the President was elected, was repudiated by any portion of the party, and therefore I said that the President of the United States was with me on this question, so far as his record shows.

Mr. Bigler—I must enter my protest, and claim the benefit of the statute of limitations, which is applicable to a shorter period than twenty years. I cannot consent that the Senator from Illinois shall hold the President to principles which he may have laid down twenty years ago, under entirely different circumstances from those which now exist. It is not half so long since the President of the United States declared that the Missouri line would be the best compromise of the Slavery difficulty that could be made. In 1848, the Senator from Illinois advocated the extension of the Missouri line to the Pacific Ocean, yet he was the man who proposed and insisted that it ought to be repealed. He was at one time in favor of extending it, and, therefore, made his principle acceptable to him under the circumstances then existing; he was willing, then, to take it. Now, would it not be very ungenerous in me to hold to-day that the Senator's argument was a fallacy, because he at one time advocated the extension of the Missouri line?

Mr. Douglas—I deny the right of the Senator from Pennsylvania to interpose the statute of limitations upon this occasion, on the well-known principle that no one but the authorized attorney of the party can interpose that plea. (Laughter.) As the Senator has disavowed the authority to act and speak for the President, he has no right to file the plea. If the President of the United States himself will interpose the plea, I shall admit it. I believe in a statute of limitations in regard to political opinions. I need one very much myself, on many points. I am not one of those who boast that they have never changed an opinion. Sir, it is a matter of gratification to me that I feel each year that I am a little wiser than I was the year before; and I do not know that a month has ever passed over my head in which I have not modified some opinion in some degree; but I am always frank enough to avow it. Still, it is fair for any man to hold me to a former opinihn until I have expressed a contrary one. Has the President of the United States ever withdrawn the opinion of which I have spoken, expressed twenty years ago, in regard to the power of the Territorial Legislatures? I show that the Democratic party stood by it last year. Is not that rather a short period for the application of the statute of limitations? I hope you are not going to cut off the Cincinnati Convention by that statute. I deny your right to plead the statute against the Cincinnati Convention, until after the meeting of the Charleston Convention. The Cincinnati platform is the fundamental, unalterable law of the Democratic party until the meeting of the Charleston Convention. Congressmen have no right to change it. Senators have no right to change it. Cabinets cannot alter it; and the President, I know, will not attempt to do so. I deny the Senator's right to come in with this plea for the President, implying thereby that he has changed his opinion, when that same opinion was last year the doctrine of the Democratic party, and cannot be changed for four years to come by the party organization. I am perfectly at home when you come to the discussion of the question whether a man is inside the party or not. I have been in the habit of discussing these platforms and helping to make them. I stand now where I stood last year; not because I am unwilling to change, but because I believed I was right then, and I believe I am right now. The Senator from Pennsylvania has told me that I acually voted for the Toombs bill last year. That is true; and, as I said to-day, I am ready to vote for it again. He voted for it last year, and so did the gentlemen around me. Let us vote for it again, and have no quarrels among ourselves. It will not do to taunt me with having voted for a measure last year which I am for now, but which you are not for.

Mr. Bigler—I certainly did not present the case in that spirit at all; nor did I look at it in that point of view. I gave it no such aspect whatever. I presented it in this point of view; the Senator, in his speech to day, had held that it was a great wrong upon the people of Kansas to put a Government in operation through the agency of their Territorial laws and a Territorial Convention, the whole of which had not been submitted for their approbation; and yet only a short year ago he voted for an enabling act which put a State Government into operation without submitting any part of it to the people. That is what I said.

Mr. Douglas—My explanation of that is to be given in the precise language of the explanation of the President of the United States in his message, in which he says that, in his instructions to Governor Walker, he took it for granted that the Constitution was to be submitted to the people under a law that was silent on the subject. The Toombs bill being silent, I took it for granted too, and I supposed every other man did, that it was to be submitted. I merely adopted the same process of reasoning that the President himself says he adopted, and which he was amazed to find was not carried out. If the President was right in taking that for granted, I do not know why I was not right in taking the same thing for granted. Again, I will ask the Senator to show me an intimation from any one member of the Senate, in the whole debate on the Toombs bill, and in the Union from any quarter, that the Constitution was not to be submitted to the people. I will venture to say, that on all sides of the Chamber it was so understood at the time. If the opponents of the bill had understood it was not, they would have made the point on it; and if they had made it, we should certainly have yielded to it and put in the clause. That is a discovery made since the President found out that it was not safe to take it for granted that that would be done which ought in fairness to have been done.

Mr. Bigler—I do not pretend to know anything on this subject which may not appear in the *Journal of Debates*. I shall not hold the Senator to anything that does not appear there; but this I will say, that I was present when that subject was discussed by Senators, before the bill was introduced, and the question was raised and discussed, whether the Constitution, when formed, should be submitted to a vote of the people. It was held by those most intelligent on the subject, that in view of all the difficulties surrounding that Territory, the danger of any experiment at the time of a popular vote, it would be better that there should be no provision for the submitting, and it was my understanding, from all the intercourse I had, that that Convention would make a Constitution and send it here without submitting it to the popular vote.

Mr. Douglas—The Senator says he will not undertake to state anything that did not occur here in debate and appear in the published debates, intimating that he has no right, as an honorable man, to do it. I will not undertake to intimate and insinuate that which, as an honorable man, I am not at at liberty to express in the body. If he means to insinuate that I was present at such a debate and sanctioned that doctrine, let him say so. If he is not willing to say it, let him not insinuate that I was present, privately sanctioning a measure that I now publicly am not willing to avow.

Mr. Bigler—If I am constantly at fault in matters of courtesy, it is painful to me. I never have so failed to observe propriety before. Perhaps I have spoken wrongfully on this subject. I have told the Senator from Illinois before that I should not in any way attempt to reflect upon him.

Mr. Douglas.—I will bring this to a close. I will release the Senator from all secrecy, if there is any, and ask if he knows that, directly or indirectly, publicly or privately, anywhere on the face of the earth, I was ever present at such a consultation, where it was called to my attention, and I agreed to pass it without submission to the people? I now ask him that question with all secrecy removed.

Mr. Bigler—I shall say distinctly what my recollection is clear about, regardless of any consequences. I remember very well that that question was discussed in the house of the Senator. I am not certain that he participated in that discussion, but I know that I did. It was urged—I think more especially by the Senator from Georgia, [Mr. Toombs,] not now in his seat—that, under all the circumstances, there ought not to be a provision inserted requiring that Constitution to be submitted to the people. I do not say that the Senator from Illinois participated in the discussion. My recollection is not clear on that point, but it is clear that, in an interview with some three or four members, who were talking about the introduction to that bill, that subject was talked over. I have said that it was always my understanding that that Convention would have a right to make a Constitution, and send it here without submitting it to the people.

Mr. Douglas—I never have insisted that there was a clause in that bill expressly requiring the Constitution to be submitted to the people. The point I have made was, that being silent, it was understood as a matter of course that it was to be submitted. Such a clause was unnecessary. That was the President's construction of the act of the Kansas Legislature. That was my construction of the Toombs bill. That I may have known there was no such clause is unquestionably true; but that I was a party, either by private conferences at my own house, or otherwise, to a plan to force a Constitution on the people of Kansas without submission, is not true. That the bill was silent on the subject is true, and my attention was called to that about the time it was passed; and I took the fair construction to be, that powers not delegated were reserved, and that, of course, the Constitution would be submitted to the people. The point I made on the Senator was, that he insinuated that I was a party to such an arrangement privately, which he was not at liberty to tell; and yet he insinuated the very fact that he, as an honorable man, could not tell. If a point of honor has restrained him from telling it, a point of honor should restrain him from insinuating it.

Mr. Bigler—In my anxiety to relieve the feelings of the Senator from Illinois, I fear I may have done injustice to myself. Now, Sir, I wish to account for the impression which was on mind, and to make no imputation on him. I had called his attention to the Toombs bill because it was in derogation of the doctrine he has laid down here to-day. When he says there was no sentiment of that kind declared in the Senate, I say I hold that Senator only to the record here—only to the Journal of Debates. What next, Sir? I justified myself in what I had said by an allusion to a discussion of that precise question with members of this body. My purpose was to show the Senator that I should not have made this allegation without some clear impr ssion on my mind. That impression, I tell the Senator from Illinois, was strengthened by other things. It was strengthened by the fact that when he made the preparatory bill for the admission of Minnesota, he provided, in express words, that the Constitution should be submitted. If it is an inference irresistible, that a constitution must be submitted when the enabling act is silent, why insert it in the Minnesota bill? There it is inserted, and I thought it reasonable—I always believed it—I believed it was wise to put it in that shape, in view of the surroundings in the Territory of Kansas. I do not impugn the Senator's integrity, or his patriotism, or his high motives, or his courage, or anything that pertains to him personally. He has had no more constant admirer than myself—none who has defended him oftener. I thought I was doing justice to myself. On account of what I heard, in regard to the Minnesota billl, I got the impression that unless Congress required the submission of the Constitution to a vote of the people that course need not be pursued.

Mr. Hale—I rise simply for the purpose of making an inquiry. This matter has been pretty tolerably well elucidated; but the honorable Senator from Pennsylvania, if I did not misunderstand him, said that, at a private meeting at the house of the honorable Senator from Illinois, there was a talk that owing to some peculiar circumstances it was not prudent to submit the Constitution to the people of Kansas. I desire him to state what some of those peculiar circumstances were which rendered it inexpedient and unpatriotic. I have not had the slightest controversy with the Senator from Illinois on that subject.

Mr. Bigler—The Senator from New-Hampshire is much more familiar with the surroundings in Kansas than he affects to be to-day.

Mr. Hale—I did not know what you talked of over there.

Mr. Bigler—I had reference (and I think I made that very clear) to the condition of the Territory, the bitter feud that divided the people there, the strifes and violence that were likely to interfere with a fair election. I said distinctly that the circumstances rendered a fair exercise of the elective franchise exceedingly difficult. Who has said more on that point than the Senator from New-Hampshire? Who has talked more about usurpation and violence there, and keeping Free State people from the polls? I had the same impressions then that I have now. In all the votes I gave I was controlled and impelled by nearly the same motive as now, and that was to get Kansas into the Union, whenever she came up in an allowable shape, in order to settle the controversy

Mr. Douglas—I must ask the Senator from Pennsylvania whether he means to intimate that in my house, or in any other, these considerations were urged why we should pass the bill without a provision to submit the Constitution to the people? Does he mean to say that I ever was, privately or publicly, in my own house or any other, in favor of a Constitution without its being submitted to the people?

Mr. Bigler—I have made no such allegation.

Mr. Douglas—You have allowed it to be inferred. I do not want a false impression to be inferred because the scene is located in my private parlor. Of what importance is it whether in my house or yours, unless I was a party to an agreement of that kind? If I was, let it be said; if I was not, acquit me of it.

Mr. Bigler—I stated that I had no recollection of the Senator participating in that Convention.

Mr. Douglas—Well, if I had nothing to do with it, and was not there, I do not know what my house had to do with it.

Mr. Bigler—What I said was the truth, and that is the only defence I have to make before the Senate, and the country, and my God.

Mr. Green—Mr. President, I regard the questions raised in this discussion as of the very highest importance, looking to the structure of our Federal Government, the extent of the agency of Congress, and the extent of the agency of the people in the formation of States, and in the admission of States into the Confederacy. As such I am not willing to see the subject pass off without a more elaborate investigation. I do not feel prepared this evening, but I desire to be heard on it myself. With the consent of the Senate, therefore, I will move to postpone the further consideration of the subject until to-morrow.

Several Senators—Say Monday.

Mr. Green—If it be the wish of the Senate, I will move to postpone it until Monday.

The motion was agreed to.

Death from an Attempt to Procure an Abortion—A Coroner Frightened by Irishmen.—A very sad affair occurred at Palmer, Mass., last week, (says the Springfield *Republican*,) in which a young Irish girl, named Ann Breen, was the victim of a seducer, who not only deserted her, but gave her means to procure the drugs from whose action she died. Ann had lived in Palmer for the past eight years in private service, and as table-waiter at the hotels. For some time past she has been at the Nassowano House, and one Samuel P. Davis, who was employed as clerk at the Tockwotton House, had been "waiting upon her" for two years, and she supposed, as did her friends, that he would marry her. She was 23 years of age, and very pretty.

On Thursday of last week she was taken so ill as to be obliged to leave her work after breakfast and go to bed. Dr. Nichols was called in, found her vomiting, and gave her an emetic, at the same time asking her if she had taken something, which she denied. Her illness increased during the night, accompanied with such agony that it was necessary to place a table against the bed to prevent her throwing herself on the floor. On Friday morning she died. On Sunday the Irish assembled in large numbers for the funeral of the girl at the shanty where the body had been taken on the day of the death. The Coroner and Jury, proceeding to this shanty for the purpose of holding an inquest, were driven off by the mourners, who declared that they should not touch the body. The Coroner then adjourned to the Antique House, where he waited for the funeral procession to pass on its way to Ware, and stopped the hearse, but was so frightened by the threats of the Irish in the procession, that, after a little wavering, he finally let them go on, and the body is now buried.

Mormons in Pennsylvania.—The Harrisburg *Herald* has been informed by a gentleman in Derry Township, that during the past year, two families in that section have left, with the object of joining the Mormons in Utah. Several other families near the line of Lebanon are preparing to pursue the same course. The *Herald* adds: "We are also told by a gentleman of undoubted veracity in our borough, that to his knowledge, several families from our town have gone among the Mormons, within the past two years, though without letting their friends know their real destination."

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Kansas Question in the Senate.

From our own Correspondent.

Washington, Tuesday, Dec. 8, 1857.

The discussion in the Senate, to-day, was important and significant, though brief. When Senators Douglas and Stuart burst the bonds of party, and proclaimed their entire dissent from the views expressed by the President on the Kansas question, it was easy to read the meaning of the frowns which at once spread over the faces of their Southern colleagues. Sorrow and anger were plainly written there. It was not enough that these gentlemen had labored so zealously, and risked so much in the repeal of the Missouri Compromise,—thus opening a vast region of the Northwest to the possible, if not probable, introduction of Slavery; unless they are prepared to violate all right and every Democratic and Republican principle in order to force Slavery on the Territory, they must be ranked at once with "the Abolitionists." Said Senator Brown, turning to Senator Wilson, as Douglas expressed his dissent from the Message: "I congratulate you on the accession of your new leader." How long do such men as Mr. Brown suppose they can have any Northern Democratic Party on the terms they thus prescribe.

Senator Wade, of Ohio, who never misses the opportunity for a joke, met the defection of Douglas and Stuart with the declaration that *it was the first slave insurrection he ever saw*,—a suggestion which excited not a little merriment among those who heard it. Of course the remark was *sotto voce*, and heard only by gentlemen in his immediate neighborhood.

Mr. Hale took broad and distinct issue with the assertion of the President, that the Constitutional Convention of Kansas had provided for the full and free decision of the people upon the entire question of Slavery, for even though the people are permitted to vote the Slavery clause out of the Constitution, the schedule—upon which they are not allowed to vote—fastens it forever upon them with reference to the slaves already in the Territory, giving their owners a monopoly in the article for all time to come.

Mr. Seward wanted to hear the promised defences of the positions assumed by the President in relation to Kansas. To his view, the Message on that point was lame and impotent, and ere he could support its doctrine, he should need far stronger arguments than any advanced in the paper itself. Meantime the condition of affairs in Kansas, and of the cause of Freedom there, was imminent, and he hoped the contemplated debate would not be delayed. Before they were aware of it there might be civil war in Kansas, and it was important that Congress should discuss and be prepared to act at the earliest possible day. Mr. Seward also expressed the hope that if the President had any measures of financial relief to propose, he would submit them to Congress, where they would undoubtedly be met in a spirit of cordial liberality. Mere declamation by the Executive, without the presentation of practical measures of relief, would amount to nothing. He also congratulated the country upon the pacific disposition of the Administration, especially with reference to the Government of Great Britain, and expressed his regret that the latter should have rejected the Dallas Treaty for the settlement of the Central American imbroglio. With respect to Utah, he hoped it would be understood that the opinion of the American Congress is substantially unanimous, and that the Government of the United States will not permit its name to be tarnished, its laws set at defiance, and its citizens murdered upon the plains by an enemy intrenched in the Rocky Mountains or anywhere else within our own borders. In conclusion, he suggested it as a proper subject for inquiry by the Committee on Military Affairs, whether the Pacific Coast does not furnish the most desirable base of operations to quell this Utah rebellion.

Mr. Mason, of Virginia, expressed his entire approval of the President's views in regard to Kansas, if they were—as he understood the Message to mean—that as the Kansas Convention was a legitimate body, legally constituted and assembled, its action must be respected and accepted by Congress. Every jurist in the land, he believed, could successfully demonstrate this to be the true position.

Mr. Trumbull, of Ill., struck at the very root of the entire subject. He maintained that a Territorial Legislature has no power to do anything to alter, modify or abrogate the Territorial Government; the Convention which the Legislature of Kansas had authorized was not in accordance with law, and its proceedings were invalid. This point he argued with great directness and force, citing precedents to establish the correctness of his position. In the case of Arkansas, the Governor of the Territory anticipating action similar to that in Kansas, wrote to President Jackson in 1835, inquiring what course he should pursue in the event of an attempt to organize a State Government there in the absence of an "enabling act" by Congress. Jackson referred the question to the Attorney-General, whose opinion, indorsed by the President, was very positive against the power of a Territorial General Assembly to form a State Government under such circumstances. To suppose that it possessed the power to abrogate or modify the Territorial Government he maintained was absurd. The people of a Territory were as much bound to abstain from any such effort, and to sustain the Territorial Government given them for the period of their pupilage, as the people of the States were bound to support the Constitution and abstain from attempting its abrogation. Consequently it was not in the power of the General Assembly of Arkansas to pass any valid law for the election of Delegates to a Constitutional Convention until Congress should authorize the body so to do. Applying this doctrine to Kansas, the Constitution which her Convention had formed could only be received in the light of a petition in that form; and it remained for Congress to decide absolutely, whether they should be admitted as a State or not.

But there was more recent authority than that of Jackson's. In the debate on the admission of Michigan, the point was raised that her Constitutional Convention had not been authorized by Congress. James Buchanan, then a Senator from Pennsylvania, at that time held the following language, viz.: "*No Senator will pretend that the Territorial Legislature had any right to pass a law authorizing the election of delegates to a Convention to frame a Constitution.* It is an act of usurpation!" Again, in reply to a suggestion of Mr. Ewing on that occasion, Mr. Buchanan said that the action of the Legislature in authorizing the Convention could "neither make the case better nor worse," &c. This was the language then held by the man who now talks of the legitimacy of the Lecompton Convention, and who drew up his army around its place of meeting, to protect and defend its deliberations! But the limits of my letter will not permit me to attempt any further statement of the debate.

The progress and termination of the fight just commenced, is quite easy to foresee, so far as the Senate is concerned. There are in that body twenty certain Republican votes, against forty-two others when the Senate is entirely filled up. Five of the forty-two are Americans, who will not volunteer any support to the Lecompton scheme. Add to these, Douglas, Pugh, Stuart, Allen, Jones, Broderick, and Houston,—all of whom will stand together on this question—and the Lecompton party is reduced to thirty—a minority of two. But besides these, there is Pearce, of Maryland,—who can hardly be dragooned into sustaining the Lecompton fraud; if, indeed, Bates or Gwin can be induced to do so, as I do not believe. Within a few days we shall see Davis, of Mississippi, pitching into Douglas, and a general row on the Administration side of the chamber,—and, finally, the Lecompton men will make a rally against Minnesota, and endeavor to prevent her admission into the Union, unless Kansas is admitted at the same time; and upon *that* issue they will find themselves weaker in the end than even upon the other.

Gentlemen just arrived from Kansas announce that only one paper out of twenty in the Territory, supports the Lecompton scheme. Some of them who have been traveling through the border counties of Missouri state that the organizations making with a view to invading the State on Election day are formidable and threatening. General Stringfellow and one or two other agents of the Calhoun and Convention party are in town,—but they feel little enthusiasm in defending their position, and have even less expectation of success in the fight.

S.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Unreasonable Requests made to American Naval Commanders—A Case in Point—Necessity for an American Consul at Shanghae.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Shanghae, Tuesday, Sept. 15, 1857.

I could quote many instances of unreasonable requests made of our naval commanders on this station, but the following will be sufficient to show what sort of occurrences go to the New-York Press, as "outrages" which our Navy fails to redress.

The exportation of rice is prohibited by regulation. No exception is made as to native or foreign rice. Russell & Co. had a cargo arrive in Shanghae; it was found more profitable to export it; and it was sold to a French interest for the purpose. The Custom-House is administered by an English, American and a French inspector, appointed by their respective Consuls. These officers are guardians of the interests of the Chinese Government, and an express regulation prohibits any transshipment without a permit. An attempt was made to transfer this rice from the American to the French ship without such permit, and all thus *in transitu* was confiscated by these foreign inspectors. It certainly was a case with two sides, and merited discussion, but one of the partners of Russell & Co. applied to Commodore Armstrong for a force to take the confiscated rice violently from the Custom-house, and upon his declining to do so, asked him to lend his men to the French Consul, who would use them.

Of course the existence of a Custom-house with foreign inspectors intervening between their own countrymen and the Chinese authorities, is objectionable to the foreign merchants who, but for this arrangement, would make only a nominal payment of duties. They are most desirous of abolishing it, and from the beginning Monsieur Montigny, the French Consul, has sympathized violently in this hostility. The Taoutae, or Chinese Superintendent of Customs, and his foreign inspectors, having refused to grant a permit for the exportation of the rice, the owners of the rice demanded of the American and French Consuls a permit, overriding the authority of the Custom-house. This the American declined giving, although willing to argue the question with the authorities, and to protest against the impeding the exportation of the rice. The Frenchman, of course, granted the permit, and the rice under his personal superintendence and that of two of the partners of the house of Russell & Co., aided by a volunteer force, was thus violently transshipped. Dr. Fish, the American Inspector, going about to protest against this violent transshipment, was ejected from the board. It is a rule that no vessel can leave port without a "grand chop," showing that all duties and demands have been paid. The French Consul has given notice that he will send out this vessel (the *Spec*) under the French flag, without the sanction of the Custom-house. Thus this institution is virtually abolished, as, if the French flag is made independent of "grand chops," American and English will probably claim a like exemption. The Chinese have no redress, as they have no authority to use their revenue force against the French vessel without the authority of the very individual who initiated these proceedings—the French Consul. In a question of honest difference the Chinese have been met by Lynch law, and should they resent it, would probably find themselves in what the French may desire—a war with France.

There is no place where an energetic, independent, intelligent and self-disciplined United States Consul is more needed than here. An anomalous and chaotic jurisdiction, compounded of Chinese and foreign Consular authority, often conflicting throughout, a vastly increasing commerce, make Shanghae the scene of new cases and principles with no law or precedent for their decision, and needing the greatest exercise of forbearance, justice and common sense, with all the acquirements useful in questions of national intercourse. The Consul who makes up his mind to do his duty must be content to dwell amid the hostility of men who will tolerate no person or principle in the way of money-getting.

Promotions in the Army.

New-York, Tuesday, Dec. 8, 1857.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I see among the recommendations of the distinguished Secretary of War, one "That promotions to grades above the rank of Captain in the Army, should be by selection according to merit."

It is of course plain, that if real merit were always rewarded, and the most deserving and best qualified were always promoted, then both justice to the Army and advantage to the country would dictate that such a course of promotion should be adopted. But there are reasons to show that this would not be the case.

First. By the accidents of service some officers meet with opportunities of distinguishing themselves, and thus become prominent, while others, just as capable, just as enthusiastic, just as brave, and just as devoted to their country, not having the good fortune of their fellows, are unnoticed and unpromoted, and would be obliged to drag out a life of disappointment in the grade of Captain.

Second. Although the President and Secretary would, in their promotions, make, as they would believe, the best selections, yet the pressure of political friends, and their representations and their misrepresentations, would no doubt have an effect, and might often turn the scale, especially when the merits of the candidates were nicely balanced. This objection would be much weakened by giving the nominations to the General-in-Chief of the Army, who would have its real interest and honor more at heart than any other person possibly could. In your article you remark that promotion by seniority has been abandoned, even by the most aristocratic and monarchical nations. It is the very nature and character of their Governments which induces them to take this course. The younger sons of distinguished families are to be provided for, and were promotion by seniority to obtain, the gray-headed veteran would stand in the way of the cadet of a noble house. In addition, despotic Governments depend upon their armies for their own security, and it is to their interest, first, to have efficient officers, (which prevents some abuses,) but principally to have their officers devoted to and dependent upon them. To give the purest of men such a power, in our Government, would be a dangerous step towards military despotism. The President now has the authority to drop any officer from the rolls of the Army.

The Secretary, in his report, speaks of the difficulty of enlisted men procuring commissions. The true reason that so few soldiers are actually promoted, is that so few are fit to become commissioned officers. By the present law, any non-commissioned officer (sergeant or corporal) can apply for and receive an examination, first, by a Board of officers of his own regiment, and if approved by them, by a Board convened at Washington. Should he pass both these examinations, he will be commissioned, and officers are not disposed to throw obstacles in the way of applicants; on the contrary, it is a source of pride to any regiment to have its men promoted. By this law, any young man who possesses the necessary steadiness of character, energy, perseverance, and an ordinary education, can enter the army and become a commissioned officer in three years at most. This course has really some advantages over going to West Point, which requires five years, to say nothing of the influence necessary to get an appointment.

Mills.

"Another Swindling Concern Exploded."

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The above is the heading of an article from the Sandusky (Ohio) *Mirror*, which has been extensively copied in the public journals throughout the country, the purport of which is that the Norwalk Savings Company, of Norwalk, Ohio, of which Mr. Counard Latimer was Treasurer, had failed and assigned, and that therefore the institution was a swindling shop, in whose operations Mr. Latimer was chief expert. An eminent author affirms it to be almost as criminal to hear a worthy man traduced without attempting his justification, as to be the author of the calumny against him. No man who has known Mr. Latimer can hear so excellent a character aspersed, without warm and just indignation. If there has been any man in Northern Ohio who has been beloved, respected, esteemed, and we had almost said, venerated, it has been Mr. Latimer. Our readers will best understand us when we say he has occupied the same eminent and disinterested social position in Norwalk that is universally awarded to Mr. Pelatiah Perit, A. R. Wetmore and

SOUTHERN POLITICS.

The Late General Hamilton on Direct Taxation, Kansas and General Politics.

To the Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Legislature of South Carolina.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Nov. 13.

GENTLEMEN: Since I responded to a call made upon me by an esteemed friend in the interior of our State, which was founded on an inquiry whether I would serve in the Senate as the successor of my lamented friend, the late Judge BUTLER, my views have undergone a change so essential that, in a given contingency of probable occurrence, I shall ask you to consider me as out of the list of competition for that distinguished honor and high trust.

What that contingency is, I will now proceed to explain.

Since the appearance of my reply to that call to which I refer, a most extraordinary, but not unexpected, financial revulsion has occurred, (not unexpected to those who looked beyond the mere surface of things,) which has desolated a portion of our country, spreading havoc and ruin far and wide. I said that this revulsion was not unexpected to those who looked beyond the mere surface of things, because it is the natural and unavoidable result of a radically unsound and vicious commercial system, which works through the instrumentality of a still more vicious mode of imposing and collecting the revenues of the country, which has inflicted deep injury on every State in this Union, and ten thousand curses on the South. Evils so stupendous in their character, if not speedily terminated, must end in our irretrievable ruin.

From what source do they flow? More than seven-tenths of the entire revenue of this country are collected in the City of New-York, through the instrumentality of an iniquitous tariff, which, in the progress of the last thirty years, has led to the accumulation and centralization in that City of most of the circulating capital of the country, which has gone to augment its riches and to pamper an inordinate spirit of gigantic and profligate speculation, which, by its natural reaction, has brought on its portion of the country calamities which usually attend the worst reverses of the most desolating wars. These results are to be seen at the North in the utter prostration of all public and private credit—in the downfall of these merchant princes in that proud emporium; failures too numerous to chronicle; banks without number, which have been compelled to suspend; thousands of laborers, of both sexes, in a state of utter destitution, and a horde of desperadoes thronging the different avenues of the City, threaten violence, for bread, to person and property, which rather belongs to a barbarous than civilized age.

A severe censor might say, as they have brought these evils upon themselves, it is right they should suffer. But they are not the only sufferers. The whole country, in a modified degree, is made to feel these calamities. The rotten speculations of New-York in railroad securities, and almost in every other species of investment, have cost the South at least thirty millions of dollars in the last six weeks, in the fall in the price of our great staples of cotton, rice, tobacco, sugar and breadstuffs. This sum is far below the mark, but quite enough for my purpose. But for the short cotton crop of the last and present year, sustained by its imperious necessity to prevent revolution in Great Britain—the natural result of starvation and hunger—this astonishingly elastic staple would now be down to four or five cents per pound, to which it may yet go if the Bank of England puts a turn or two more on the screw.

Could New-York have inflicted these curses on the country, but for a centralization of the wealth of the Southern States, through the agency of an unsound commercial system, brought and pampered into existence by the original sin of our accursed tariff?

What, then, is the remedy? A radical change in the mode of raising the revenues of the country, which shall be equivalent to its necessary and unavoidable expenditures. You ask how is this to be effected? I answer, by *derect tuxation*, and the abolition of every custom-house from the St. John's, to the Rio Grande.

The mere statement of a change so stupendous, and environed, seemingly, by such insuperable difficulties, is well calculated to stagger the strongest and appal the weakest mind. But this scheme of finance will grow stronger the more it is considered, until at length it will come recommended to the good sense and adoption of every man in our country, excepting those who may profit by the centralization in New-York, and the frauds of our present system of collection.

If I did not know that our State, small as she is, is the Lacedæmon of this Confederacy, and that she probably had the will to do as I know she has the courage to attempt, this great political, financial and social reform, I should remain silent, under, nevertheless, the deep conviction of the utter ruin of the South, under the present system of robbery and exaction, liable to perpetual and more frequent recurrence.

Do not suppose, gentlemen, that I have not well-considered and duly estimated the labors I recommend for your adoption. You will have to look without faltering, disunion, or, if it better suits the tender fears of other persons, revolution in the face, although I believe the change I recommend is the only mode of preserving it, by impressing on our whole financial system, justice, moderation, equal benefits and equal burdens, which ought alone to be the aliment and cement of a confederacy like ours.

Let me, then, avow what I believe to be true, that through this unexpected revulsion in our finances (which is a change so fearful that in most countries it would produce revolution,) it will be attended with the blessing of arousing our people from their lethargy, and convincing them that the crisis has arrived, and NOW IS THE ACCEPTED TIME FOR ACTION.

I will now endeavor to exhibit the *modus operandi* of working out this great enterprise.

As some one State must make a beginning, I know no State, from the intelligence and courage of her people, better qualified to be the pioneer of this great movement than our own

If I were one of her Representatives in the Congress of the United States, I should certainly feel great pride in carrying out her public sentiment in this respect, with an industry nothing should relax, and a zeal nothing should damp.

I should commence by offering to the Senate or House, to which ever body I might belong, a series of resolutions which should open up and eviscerate the history of the financial system of the United States, from the adoption of the Federal Constitution to the present time.

I would be able to show that our system of collection by customs is the most stupendous system of deception and injustice ever invented by man; in short it is nothing more or less than a system of clandestine and insidious robbery—that it is calculated to build up such a state of things as now exist in the City of New-York, with its portentous catastrophe, and to impoverish such a country as the South.

I would show that it has added five hundred millions, at an estimate far below the truth, to the wealth of the commercial and manufacturing cities of the North, and subtracted and abstracted about as much more from the resources of the agricultural States of the South.

I would show that the system of direct taxation is the fairest, the most equal and least onerous on earth, that it throws its burdens on those best calculated to bear them, and its minimum weight on those least able to sustain the former.

The system can be arranged so as to exclude all domiciliary inquisition in a form of great simplicity, without vexation or hardship; and for about one-third of the taxes we now pay through the Custom-House, we shall raise revenue enough to pay all the just expenses of the Government. The system itself will lead to moderation and economy in the public expenditures, and arrest waste, corruption and extravagance. Indeed, the taxes may be so arranged as to be imposed and collected with the simplicity and facility with which the State taxes are collected and paid. It will, of course, arrest the career of a Government of Oriental magnificence, and substitute a plain Republican polity, full of high moral power, but not swollen and debilitated by bloated corruption. The public lands might be reserved as a sacred fund for the purposes of education and the support of the Army and Navy.

But what would recommend such a system of finance to our favor, will be that "Direct Taxation" will lead to "Direct Trade"—that great and long-desired blessing of Southern aspiration, which, when accomplished, will be attended by a gush of prosperity the South has never known.

I would show that we have submitted to these evils for nearly half a century, from a mistaken attachment to the Union of these States, which has at last fortunately ceased, from the conjoint operation of exaction and fanaticism, and is regarded now by all men of sense as nothing but a degrading superstition, when it tolerates injustice, spoliation and abuse.

I. With these financial objects I would endeavor to connect the consummation of some effective guarantees in regard to our peculiar institutions—at least that the Hall of Congress should be exempt from the perpetual agitation of the Slave question, and that the members of the South, without resorting to the bludgeon, should be protected from vulgar insolence and unscrupulous slander.

In regard to Kansas, I think your Representative, whether Kansas with a Pro-Slavery Constitution is denied admission into this Union, or is cheated out of her right, should, in either event, be prepared for effective action suitable for either emergency.

I ought now to say to you, in perfect fairness and candor, that I have no idea that the resolutions providing for the several financial objects in this letter will be carried, but, discussed with ability and amplitude, they will diffuse so much information that the South will be prepared for action, if the North is not prepared for justice. After the report has been rendered, in either House to which your Representative may belong, he should, consequent on our defeat, endeavor, with untiring exertion, to unite the Southern Delegations in a vigorous and well concerted effort, to present fairly to the Northern States the fact, that it is impossible for us to live any longer under a Government which collects its revenues under a scheme of taxation so oppressively unequal as the imports at the Custom-House are, and would be, if continued. If this demand is denied, respectfully, cordially and fraternally made, we have nothing to do, after earnest protest and exhortation, but to assemble in convention and draw the line of separation—a point to which the North would not like to see us travel, for she is too intelligent not to perceive that the Union is worth more to her than a corrupt and insidious mode of taxing us. Suppose they should endeavor to sustain injustice by coercion? This, I think, would be rather a bootless game for them to play. There does not exist on earth physically a more powerful military people than the people of the South, in all the essential elements that make soldiers, and good ones. The very educational training of our sons leads to such a result. There is no squirrel, however strong, locked in the umbrageous concealment in the top of the loftiest pine, who is safe from the rifle of our youth. There is no wild horse of the prairie they cannot tame into submission by mounting on his back, and even giving him his own reins.

How would it be with the great sinews of war? What is the South worth? Her aggregate income is little short of $350,000,000, counting what is used for domestic consumption and export. Her exports amount to at least $200,000.000, domestic and foreign. She could support a fixed standing army of 100,000 for less than one-half of the tribute she pays to the North under the present impost system. That she could raise, equip, and keep in the field an army of 500.000 men, to meet any extraordinary exigency, I think may be demonstrated by the most irrefutable figures. But let me pursue this painful subject no further. May God, in his mercy, avert all necessity for raising such terrible instruments of human vengeance.

It may be next asked: Suppose the other Southern States should refuse to join the league for overthrowing the present impost system, and securing effective guarantees against further Slavery agitation, will you advocate the separate action of South Carolina?

This is a momentous question, the solution of which I am not disposed to anticipate. When the exigency arises, it will be time enough for the discussion.

Having, in great haste, glanced at the topics comprehended in this great question in which South Carolina may do herself immortal honor if she wills it, I trust I may be permitted to say a few words in relation to myself without an offensive self-love.

I therefore beg leave distinctly to avow that I have no desire to go to the Senate of the United States, except on a mission of high and effective service. If you will sanction my moving, by my election, in a direction, if possible, to overthrow the present revenue system, with all its revolting incidents, I will serve you with uncompromising fidelity and zeal. But if you are disposed to be acquiescent and submissive to the present state of things, I must decline the honor of being your Senatorial Representative. Private life will be far more in accordance with my inclinations, pride and taste. If, however, you should elect me under this declaration, I shall conceive that I have your warrant for moving, and I will move with the unfaltering step of the triumphal action of our State in 1832. We "scotched the snake" *then*; we will kill him *now*.

Gentlemen, I do not feel myself entirely unworthy of your confidence, if the testimony of one of the best, and, in my belief, taking him "for all in all," the greatest man South Carolina ever produced, is of any worth.

In the session in which Mr. CALHOUN died, I was at Washington, and for six weeks preceding his decease I was the constant companion of his sick-bed. Instead of seeking the hospitality of the metropolis, every evening of my life I sought the instructive consolations of the conversation of my great friend. Although sinking hour by hour, his cheerfulness as little deserted him as his tenderness and affection to his friends. His great intellect, like the great luminary of the world, seemed to shine with a mild yet more perfect radiance, as it was about to dip beyond the horizon forever. We were generally alone, and at an hour just before sunset, which prevented the intrusion of other visitors, to whom he generally denied himself. His conversation had an indescribable interest, and was imbued with the charm of a tenderness and charity to others of unspeakable beauty.

These conversations, when he spoke of the South, were mournful and melancholy in the extreme. He foretold the point we have reached. The portentous augmentation of the Slavery excitement, the increase of extravagance and corruption, the centralization of the wealth and commerce of the country in one capital—an accumulation which would lead to the most frightful revulsion—all of which would drive the South out of the confederacy, if the evil was not speedily arrested.

In one of these conversations, laying his hand upon my arm, he said: "My friend, you must return to the public service of our State, to carry out my principles and unfinished labor. A great crisis will come when her interests and your reputation will demand it." I must stop. A sense of delicacy and propriety prevents me going any further with these disclosures. The reasons of his preference of myself are locked in my own bosom. To recollect them seems "to recover a part of the forgotten value of existence." In the hour of adverse fortune sweet will be their odor, sweet the balm of their consolation! August spirit, at the feet of the throne of the Almighty, look down from that footstool, where you look undazzled at the glories of your God, and bless the State which in life you served with so much honor. Look down, too, with tenderness on your weak, humble and suffering friend, who believes the crisis has come when he might obey your high commands. He comes ready to peril all of life and honor on the issue, if others will it so. Mighty spirit, all hail! and farewell!

Gentlemen, I feel how deep an apology I owe you for this seeming exhibition of vanity and self-love. Pardon me if I cling to this testimony with the tenacity of life. Precious of the past are these memories—melancholy and grateful to the soul.

Gentlemen, I have done. Unknown, except to a few of your members, I feel all the embarrassments and diffidence of a stranger in approaching you. When I, with my confederates, were on the stage of public life in South Carolina, you were comparatively boys. Now, fresh from the classic distinction of the University, you know more of the heroes of the Trojan war than of the men of 1832. Oblivion is the destiny of all human things. Be it so.

In conclusion, I desire to speak with all the emphasis of which our language is susceptible. If you mean, in this crisis, action, redress and resistance, I am willing, if you desire it, to serve you. But if you are prepared to float down the current of Submission on the surface, like that stream which glides with a sluggard pace, "by the fat weed that grows on LETHE'S wharf," *then, I am not your man.* One hour in the bosom of my own family would be worth an age in even the gorgeous and fretted colonades of the Senate, in witnessing the acquiescence of South Carolina in wrongs which, with courage and forecast, she could fling off like "dew drops from the lion's mane." With profound and respectful consideration, your fellow-countryman, J. HAMILTON.

On the 26th ult. the Virginia and North Carolina tobacco manufacturers met in convention at Richmond, and adopted resolutions that agents for the sale of manufactured tobacco shall, after the first of July next, limit their credits to four months; shall make no allowance from the actual weights of tobacco; shall state the names of purchasers, and agents shall not deal in manufactured tobacco on their own account, or have any intervention with brokers. It was also resolved to petition Congress to make it felony for the manufacturers and dealers of tobacco in any one State to use the name of any other manufacturer, or the name of any other State, or any other town or district in another State, in branding their tobacco.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COURT CALENDAR—FRIDAY, Dec. 11.

SUPREME COURT—*Special Term*—Nos. 10 to 16, 29 to 34, 56, 143, 150, 101, 164, 194.

SUPREME COURT—*Circuit.*—Nos. 2792, 686, 1056, 2065, 2434, 820, 2105, 2829, 2828, 905, 2666, 2783, 2777, 2877, 1505, 2014, 2661, 1990, 1494, 2405, 2406, 2748, 2568, 2702, 2061, 2896, 2954, 2955, 2669, 900, 602, 2739, 362, 363, 2447, 2091.

Decisions in Admiralty.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.

Before Judge Betts.

PRIORITIES—REMNANTS AND SURPLUS—MORTGAGEE—FREIGHTER.

Justi Pon et al. vs. *The Proceeds of the Brig Arbustus.*—The brig *Arbustus* having been libeled for seamen's wages, and for a bottomry bond, and having been sold by process of the Court, and those claims satisfied, there still remained remnants and surplus in the Registry of the Court. Two classes of petitioners contested their priority of right to the fund, the demands of each exceeding its entire amount. Fairbanks & Co. held a mortgage, executed in Nova Scotia, to secure a debt incurred there for her outfit and supplies for the voyage, notice of which mortgage was entered on her register. The libelants held a bill of lading, executed by the master during that voyage, for specie shipped on board and never delivered.

Held by the Court—That the claim of the libelants was a clear maritime lien upon the vessel. That the mortgagees have a competent legal authority to litigate their right to the fund representing the vessel, although the Court could give them no direct remedy against the vessel by way of foreclosure of their mortgage or otherwise. That the libelants having a lien upon the vessel have a priority over the mortgagees. That the principle is not changed by the fact that the foundation of the mortgage was a debt of a maritime character accruing for labor and materials furnished by the mortgagees to the vessel. They could claim no priority over, if, indeed, their position was as advantageous as that of an unsecured material man, as by their contract they left the vessel in the hands of the mortgagor, and thus liable to subsequent maritime liens resulting from her employment by him.

It is clear that if the vessel had gone into the possession of the mortgagees under that incumbrance, and had afterward taken on board the shipment in question, she would have been subject to a lien for its value, and there is no legal reason shown for securing them a privilege against this charge, when leaving her in the hands of the mortgagor, superior to what they could claim if placed in the hands of the mortgagees.

Decree for libelants.

EXCEPTION TO CLAIM—RIGHT OF SHERIFF TO INTERVENE.

Joseph Encas vs. *The Schooner Charlotte Minerva.*—This was a libel against the vessel upon a bottomry bond. The Sheriff of the City and County of New-York intervened by claim and answer, alleging his levy upon the vessel and his priority of right of possession by virtue of a writ of *fieri facias* issued out of a Court of law against the property of her owner. The libelant excepted to the claim and answer, on the ground that the Sheriff was not an owner of, or a party holding any legal interest in the vessel, raising the point whether a Sheriff holding personal property in his possession under legal process, has a right to interpose in Admiralty, and contest the authority of any party by suit in that Court, to take property out of his custody and possession.

Held by the Court—That the Sheriff on an arrest of personal effects, under an execution acquires all the powers and interest of a bailee or mandatory, and can maintain in his own name any appropriate action in support of his possession. Indeed he is regarded as technically owner of the property. There is, therefore, no foundation for an exception to the competency of a Sheriff to come into this Court upon such an interest, the fundamental principle in respect to the rights of parties to litigate in an Admiralty forum being that all valid rights to or interests in property under arrest by its process, may be vindicated in the name of the one possessing a title or interest therein. Rule 34 of the Supreme Court recognizes the authority of other persons than actual owners or their agents to intervene and protect their interest in property under arrest in an Admiralty proceeding.

Exception overruled with costs.

For libelants—Messrs. Benedict, Burr and Benedict. For claimant—Messrs. Larocque and Barlow.

SUPREME COURT—SPECIAL TERM.

Before Judge Birdseye.

BROOKLYN, Wednesday, Dec. 8.

DECISIONS.

Abraham Thorn vs. *Mary Jane Thorn, Charles W. Hays* vs. *Anna M. Hays.*—Judgment cannot be granted until the production of the affidavit required by the 64th rule of the Court.

John Dempster and al. vs. *John H. Trowbridge and wife, and al.*—Judgment of foreclosure and sale granted; the plaintiffs to be allowed for costs, a sum equal to their necessary disbursements on the hearing before the referee, including the fees of the referee, and of witnesses, and for documentary proof procured for such hearing.

DEC. 9—*In the Matter of Nancy Daly, &c.*—*Certiorari* allowed.

J. Garrison Smith vs. *John A. Dayton.*—Order granted, appointing G. G. Reynolds, receiver, &c., with costs and injunction.

DEC. 10—*Sidney Bayles* vs. *Charles A. Roe and others,*—Motion to dissolve injunction with $10 costs.

Horatio G. Onderdonk vs. *Wm. Conseiyea and wife and others.*—Motion to set aside judgment and sale, granted on terms.

J. Coleman Hart vs. *Tunis T. Cowenhoven and others.*—Motion to set aside judgment denied, with $10 costs.

Before Judge Roosevelt.

DECISIONS.

Todd vs. *Todd.*—Judgment of divorce granted.

Trial of James Shepherd for Arson in the First Degree.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

Before Hon. Recorder Smith.

The trial of James Shepherd for arson in the first degree was commenced yesterday. About one hour was consumed in obtaining a Jury. The case, which was fully reported at the time, will be remembered by most of our readers. On June 9, about 1½ o'clock in the morning, the house occupied by Shepherd, in Fifty-third-street, near Ninth-avenue, was discovered to be on fire. It was a two-story frame house, the upper part being occupied by Shepherd and his wife, and the first floor by Christian Geyer. The fire, as is alleged, commenced in that part of the premises occupied by Shepherd. The building was consumed, together with three others, and Shepherd's wife perished in the flames. There was evidence that before the fire occurred, he had removed several things from the house—that the worth of the house was not over $60, while he had insured it for $250, and that after he had obtained his policy of insurance, he told a friend that a fire would occur at his house. After the fire, he stated, as is alleged, that all his wife's clothing and his own, except what he wore, were destroyed, and that his gold watch was burnt and ruined. It would be proved, said Mr. Sedgwick, the Assistant District-Attorney, that he subsequently gave to Mr. Parker a chest of wearing apparel to keep for him, and that he left his watch with a jeweler at Harlem, under the assumed name of Robinson. The whole case was one of strong suspicion against the defendant. The witnesses examined, yesterday, however, did not prove anything very material.

Wilhelmina Decker, examined by Mr. Sedgwick—I lived in Fifty-third-street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues, in June last, near Shepherd's house; could see the second story of his house; I was woke up by my mother about one o'clock on the morning of June 9th; a woman ran up the street, crying "Fire!" I went out with Mr. Bogert; the roof of Shepherd's house was burning.

Cross-Examined by prisoner's counsel—I do not know the woman who cried "Fire!" Mr. Bogert lived in the house with my mother and myself; when I first saw the fire I was in my room, looking out of the window; I do not know where the fire commenced.

John May, examined for the prosecution—I remember the fire in Shepherd's house; I am a fireman; it was between one and two o'clock in the morning; when I got to the spot I saw the roof burning, and part of the second story; the building was only two stories high; I saw Mr. Shepherd on the sidewalk; he had on only his shirt and trousers; he was crying out "My wife, my wife;" I saw Mr. Gever come out from the lower part of the house, with his bed in his arms; the roof was all in flames; the house was all burnt down; I saw Mrs. Shepherd found; there was only part of her body; I knew Mrs. Shepherd, she was a strong woman; she went out washing.

Cross-examined—Shepherd's house was a small one; there was a man with Shepherd, whose name I do not know; I saw Mr. Bogert at the fire; I do not know what countryman Shepherd is.

The District-Attorney said he would admit that Shepherd was an Irishman.

Witness—Shepherd would sometimes talk in Dutch; he said that he wanted to go in and rescue his wife and a policeman prevented him.

Henry Trimer was the next witness—He deposed that he assisted Shepherd to build his house; it was worth about $50 or $60; he offered to sell it to witness for $25, last Winter; witness leased the ground to him; he owed witness nine months rent on June 9.

The District-Attorney remarked that Shepherd insured the house for $275.

The witness continued—He saw the upper part of the house in flames; he did not converse much with Shepherd after the fire; Shepherd said he had lost a gold watch in the fire, and that his wife used to carry gold about her; all the money found in the ruins was a five cent piece; Shepherd moved building materials to Harlem three weeks before the fire; he took the bannisters off the stairs, and put a pine board in their place; witness did not know whether Shepherd was insured; Shepherd and his wife were in the habit of quarreling night and day; witness once saw him drag her through the street by the hair.

Christian Geyer was next examined—He occupied a room on the first floor of Shepherd's house; on the night in question, he went to bed about 8 o'clock; about midnight he was aroused by a man who asked him why his door was open; more than one hour afterwards, he saw the upper part of the house in flames; he took his bed in his arms, and went into the entry, but could not return again, in consequence of the flames and smoke; Shepherd was standing about 14 feet from the house; Shepherd cried "fire," as did witness, also; Shepherd was dressed only in pantaloons and shirt; witness did not know whether he had any shoes on; witness, next morning, saw that Shepherd's beard was burned, and that he had a scar on his face; being hard of hearing, witness could not say whether Shepherd and his wife were accustomed to quarrel; when Shepherd left home in the morning, he always demanded money of his wife.

The cross-examination of this witness did not elicit anything of the least importance. The Court adjourned at 3 P. M., until this morning at the usual hour, when the case will be continued.

COURT OF SPECIAL SESSIONS—Dec. 10.

Before Justices Osborn and Davison.

There were 51 prison cases, 1 suspended case, and 4 bail cases—56 altogether—upon the calendar, and a sufficiently numerous audience in the Court room. The people who attend as spectators at the Court of Special Sessions, although for the most part rough-looking and meanly clad, behave themselves remarkably well. There are always a great many Policemen in the Court room, either detailed for service or called there to substantiate charges against culprits to be tried, and it is probably owing to their presence that the loafers who partially constitute the audience demean themselves so correctly

Gilbert Bedell entered a complaint against William Barker, whom he charged with stealing a quantity of bank notes and specie, in all amounting to $630, from the barge *Coxsackie*, lying at the foot of Jay-street, North River. The offence was committed Nov. 14. Barker was found guilty and remanded till Saturday, when he will be sentenced.

Thomas Mulligan was brought to the bar on a charge of an attempt at illegal voting. Alfred R. Whitney, of No. 388 Fourth street, said he was a clerk of election at the polls in the Eighth District of the Seventeenth Ward at the last election, Dec. 1. The prisoner offered to vote and said he resided at No. 171 First-avenue. He was challenged, sworn and questioned, when he acknowledged that he resided at Jamaica, L. I. He was given into the custody of Officer Treshurar, of the Seventh Ward. Mulligan was found guilty and sentence suspended until Saturday.

George Reese was tried for a similar offence. John Flannelly, of No. 303 Tenth-street, an Inspector at the Polls of the Thirteenth District in the Seventeenth Ward, was the complainant. Reese, it seems, gave in his vote (Dec. 1) at the polls, and swore he was a citizen of the United States, and that he lived at No. 159 or 157 Eleventh-street. He afterwards acknowledged that his statement was false. He was found guilty and sentence suspended.

Michael McDunn committed a petit larceny, (Dec. 7,) by which Henry Webb was a sufferer. *Judge Osborn*—What have you got to say? *Prisoner*—Nothing, Sir. *Judge Osborn*—We find you guilty and sentence you to the Penitentiary for 4 months.

Jacob Kneffer was found guilty of stealing some cigars from Jacob Bowden and sentence suspended, at the request of the complainant.

John Williams was a servant in the employment of James Graham, No. 174 West Thirteenth-street. He stole a silver goblet, worth $10, from his employer, Dec. 7. In his defence it was urged that he had always been a steady, honest man before, and that this was his first offence. Witnesses were examined, who testified to his previous good character. *Judge Osborn*—We find him guilty of this offience, and sentence him to the Penitentiary for three months. *Counsel*—What, for stealing a silver goblet, Judge? Can't you say a month? That is punishment enough. He has proved here that he bore a good character and this is his first offence.—The sentence was finally altered to two months in the Penitentiary.

James Kelly stole a cloth overcoat valued at $4 25 from James Goodman, No. 129 Chatham-street, Dec. 7. He was found guilty, and sentenced to the Penitentiary for four months.

Gilbert Smith was complained of by Platt Reid, of No. 17 Sixth-street, who charged him with an assault and battery, committed upon him Dec. 8. Smith beat him with his fists and knocked him down. He was fined $15 for the luxury.

Francis Hanly, Jeremiah Carter, Andrew Donovan, and Jeremiah Reed, had been committed on a charge of riotous and disorderly conduct, and an assault upon an officer. Officer Thomas Huff, of the Seventh District Police, said he had arrested a prisoner, Dec. 8, and the prisoners at the bar rushed at him with brickbats in their hands, and attempted to rescue the person whom he had in custody. They did not succeed, but were themselves taken to the Station house. They were found guilty, and sentence suspended till Saturday.

Patrick Conner purloined and appropriated to his own use an overcoat, valued at $6 02 by its owner, George C. Clark, of No. 121 Chatham-street. The offence was committed Dec. 7. Conner was found guilty and sentenced to the Penitentiary for three months.

A man, who gave his name as Charles Matthews, was next tried, on the complaint of Diedrick Fessenfelt, of No. 271 Washington-street, who swore that the prisoner stole from him (Dec. 8) one barrel of vinegar, worth $2 50. *Judge Osborn*—We find him guilty of this offence and sentence him to the Penitentiary for four months.

John Davis attempted to vote illegally at the last election. Moses C. Hagadorn, an Inspector at the polls of the Second District in the Seventh Ward, preferred the charge against him. He was found guilty and sentenced to the Penitentiary for three months.

John Smith, Henry Williams and John Wilson were next brought to the bar. Mrs. Mary Tooker, an old lady residing at No. 24 Norfolk-street, said they picked her pocket while at church, Dec. 8, stealing her pocket-book and $4 50 in bills and coin which it contained. Police officers were called to the stand, and testified that the prisoners were notorious thieves. The evidence against Smith was conclusive, but the charge was not fully made out against the other two. *Judge Osborn*—Well, Smith, we find you guilty of this theft, and sentence you to the Penitentiary for six months. The other two we are compelled to discharge.—Williams and Wilson (these were assumed names) took their very speedy departure. Smith was taken into prison by the officers.

William Dowd, a boy, was sent to the house of refuge for stealing several pairs of gloves belonging to Ann McGrann, Dec. 8.

The case of John Corrigan, charged with an assault and battery upon William Wellington, was adjourned to Tuesday.

Eliza Sullivan was the step-mother of Anna Sullivan, and, Ann said, she treated her with the proverbial severity of all step-mothers. She boxed her ears Dec. 5. *Judge Osborn*—She boxed your ears, did she? *Witness*—Yes, Sir. *Judge Osborn*—Has she been in prison ever since? *Witness*—Yes, Sir. *Judge Osborn*—Oh, I guess she's been punished enough; (to the prisoner,) you'll learn to keep your hands off this girl, will you hereafter? *Prisoner*—Oh, yes Sir, I'll never touch her again.—She was found guilty and sentence suspended.

Elizabeth Wilson and Mary Ann Shaw were charged with stealing five pair of cloth gloves, worth $3 60, from Lord & Taylor's store in Grand-street. Theodore Conklin, a clerk in the store, preferred the charge. They were arrested on another complaint and these gloves were found upon them. There was no proof that they had stolen them, and upon this charge they were acquitted. The other complaint against them was made by Sarah Campbell. Officer John W. Holmes, of the Tenth District Police, an important witness in this case, was called, but did not appear. Counsel said the case had been twice adjourned, and the prisoners were entitled to their discharge. Judge Osborn ordered them to be remanded, and directed an officer to inform Officer Holmes that if he was not forthcoming when the trial came on next, he would give him some trouble.

Henry Wagner gave his wife Louisa a very severe beating at No. 44 First-avenue, where they resided, Dec. 8. He was in the habit of abusing her, and did not support her. *Judge Osborn*—We find him guilty and sentence him to the Penitentiary for six months.

William Cartlan and Thomas Longon stole a pocket-book containing $4 50 in coin and bills from James Costello, of No. 101 Mott-street, Dec. 7, and were sentenced to the Penitentiary for the full term, six months each.

John Hunter and James Burgess, both boys, were found guilty of a charge of petit larceny preferred against them by Sewell F. Mirch, of No 148 Charles-street. The complainant said they stole from him (Dec. 7) two pair of ice tongs, worth $1. They were sent to the House of Refuge.

John Lapuce stole a black frock coat and a pocket-handkerchief, worth together $11, from Thomas Hanlon, No. 232 West Twenty-seventh-street. The complainant set forth that the offence was committed two or three months ago. Lapuce was found guilty and sent up for the long term, six months.

Arthur Cowan and Samuel Muldoon were charged by Hugh McNeill, of No. 26 Centre-street, with stealing from him (Dec. 3) a chest of carpenter's and machinist's tools, valued at $25. *Judge Osborn*—We find you both guilty, and sentence you to the Penitentiary for three months each.

William McGraw was arraigned on the complaint of Sarah Matzel, of No. 103 Avenue D, who charged him with stealing a pocket-handkerchief, worth $1 37. She said he went into her store and asked the price of a handkerchief (Dec. 2) which she showed him. She told him the price, and he said he would go and get the money to pay for it from Alderman Boole. He went out with the handkerchief, but did not return, and when a police officer was procured, and went to look for him, he found him in a porter-house. His friends pleaded for his discharge very zealously. After considerable hesitation, "Well," said Judge OSBORN, "I'm willing to let him off this time, but if he's ever brought up here again, on any offence whatever, we'll sentence him on this. We'll let him off—it may reform him. If he is ever brought here, and found guilty of another offence, we'll send him to the Penitentiary for the full term, six months, for this offence. We find him guilty, and suspend sentence." Several police officers testified that McGraw's character was very bad. He was set at liberty, and left the Court-room surrounded by troops of friends.

Thomas Sheridan was tried upon the complaint of John Flannelly, one the Inspectors at the last election. Flannelly's affidavit charged the prisoner with inducing another man named Reese to vote illegally at the polls of the Thirteenth District in the Seventeenth Ward. A number of witnesses were examined for and against the defendant, and the case was finally adjourned to Saturday.

Bryan Cavanagh stole a woolen comforter worth 25 cents from Patrick McMurty, No. 197 South-street, Dec. 7. He was found guilty and sentenced to the Penitentiary for three months.

The Court then adjourned to Saturday morning, 9 o'clock.

BROOKLYN SUPREME COURT—SPECIAL TERM, Dec. 9.

Before Judge Birdseye.

In the matter of Nancy Daley and others.—*Certiorari* allowed.

J. G. Smith vs. *John A. Dayton.*—Order granted appointing G. G. Reynolds, Esq., receiver, with costs and injunction.

Sidney Bayles vs. *Charles A. Roes and others.*—Motion to dissolve injunction granted with $10 costs.

Horatio Onderdonk vs. *Wm. Conseiyea and others.*—Motion to set aside judgment, and sale granted on terms.

J. Coleman Hart vs. *Tunis S. Cowenhoven and others.*—Motion to set aside judgment denied, with $10 costs.

Abraham Thorn vs. *Mary J. Thorn. Charles W. Hayes* vs. *Anna M. Hayes.*—Judgments cannot be granted until the production of the affidavits required by the sixty-fourth rule of the Court.

John Dempster vs. *John H. Trowbridge and wife, et al.*—Judgment of foreclosure and sale granted. The plaintiff to be allowed the costs, a sum equal to the necessary disbursements on the hearing before the Referee, including the fees of the Referee and of witnesses, and for documentary proof procured for such hearing.

From the Utah Expedition—Col. Johnson Moving Against Salt Lake City—The Federal Troops.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

Our correspondent in the Utah expedition furnishes us with late advices from the Army. In a private note to us he expresses the opinion that Colonel JOHNSON will attack Salt Lake City this Fall. His letter is dated Fort Reany, Nov. 11:

"I little supposed, when I wrote you a few days since, that we were on the eve of good news from the East. On the 15th inst., Colonel JOHNSON, the Commander of the Utah expedition, came to our camp and published a general order to the troops. He was escorted by fifteen men, with Lieutenants RICH and TYLER, all in ambulances, with their stock in good condition.

We have read the proclamation of Governor YOUNG with surprise. It is regarded as a declaration of war; but you will soon have it, and will judge of it for yourself. We have but one copy, and I cannot send it to you, as that one must be forwarded to the Secretary of War. Armed parties hover around the camp of Colonel ALEXANDER, on Green River, and I am informed he has two Mormon prisoners, who were taken in his camp. The grass near us has been fired, and consumed forty or fifty acres of it. It was yet smoking when we came up last night.

We are now encamped in the South Pass of the mountain, awaiting the arrival of our provision trains. Three, of twenty-six wagons each, are here, and four more will be up in a day or two. Lieutenant T. J. LEE will be here by the 22d, with fifty foot and two companies of horse. He was left back at Laramie, to escort Governor CUMMING on when he reached that point. The Governor and other civil officers with six companies of dragoons, are about Laramie now, and will be up about the 6th of next month. Colonel MCGRAW, of the road expedition, is encamped about forty miles from us, and came to our camp on the 15th, and tendered to the commandant the men, mules, and wagons in his employ. He has about one hundred mules in good condition, eighteen wagons, and about fifty men. This was very patriotic in him, and useful to us. Last night eight of our mules perished with cold, and nine more are down, and not likely to be useful to us again. These are of the worn-out animals of Colonel SMITH.

We are in want of a forage very much. Our animals have had to subsist on the grass, and it is already covered with snow. You need not be surprised if we lose nearly all our animals. It will require us about five days more to collect all our trains and muster Colonel MCGRAW and his men into service, when we will go forward on to the waters of Green River, in Utah, and there establish and fortify a depôt or supplies, where we will look out for the Mormons.

These Mormons have the impudence of the devil. They have a mule train of ammunition a few days behind, and its conductor applied to Colonel JOHNSON for passports to go into Salt Lake City. The Colonel replied, if there was no war declared against us he needed no such thing, and, if war existed, he should permit no one to enter the valley. Unless they find some by-way through the mountains this train will be seized in the name of the United States, and its men held in custody for trial.

A Chief of the Snake Indians was in our camp two days since. From him we learn that all the other Indians in this region are in league with the Mormons. He and his band prefer neutrality. BRIGHAM YOUNG tried to engage him, but he replied that "When redskin fight redskin, bluecoat stand upon the hill and look on; when bluecoat fight bluecoat, redskin stand on the hill and look on; when bluecoat fight redskin, redskin turn his back—bluecoat is very great.'

Yet I think this little band will give us valuable assistance before long.

I expect that Colonel JOHNSON will, as soon as he reaches the Territory of Utah, declare martial law, and subject all offenders to a trial by court-martial. If this is done, Judge ECKLES and his associates will have but little to do for a while.

Last night the thermometer went down to fifteen degrees above zero, but it has no effect upon the enthusiasm of the troops."

From the Washington Union.

DR. JACOB FORNEY, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Territory of Utah, in a letter to the Indian Bureau, dated Fort Laramie, Oct. 26, states that the troops would leave there on the evening of that day, and that he and his party would follow on the morrow. He says that they met no hostile Indians between Fort Laramie and Fort Kearney. A report had reached him that a portion of the Utah Indians are Mormons, and that BRIGHAM YOUNG boasts that he has several Indian tribes in his service, and ready to take up arms against the United States.

Speech of Secretary Stanton upon the Kansas Election.

From the Lecompton Squatter-Sovereign.

MR. STANTON being called for, said:

"I came here from the South with the hope that Kansas would be a Slave State. It would be very agreeable to me to find the Pro-Slavery Party, if there be such a party here, in the majority. *But whether I found it so or not, I determined to sustain the majority.* The troubles of Kansas were agitating the whole country, and the Governor determined to settle them by a fair election. I said if the thing could be fairly done I should rejoice, for then our difficulties would be at an end. But while we were determined that the majority should rule, it became a perplexing question to decide which party had that majority. Obstacles were thrown in the way of a fair vote; the tax qualification was brought up and insisted on by Judge CATO, of the Supreme Court, and by Mr WISE, the Attorney-General. We set that tax

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, DEC. 11, 1857.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

The steamship *Europa*, now fully due at this port, with later news from Europe, had not been signaled at Sandy Hook up to 2 o'clock this morning.

The report of proceedings in Congress yesterday is brief, though not devoid of interest. In the Senate, Mr. DOUGLAS gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill, at an early day, to enable the people of Kansas to form a Constitution and State Government, preparatory to their admission into the Union. In the House, the Speaker appointed the Committee, authorized on Wednesday, to examine into the subject of the public printing, and report reforms necessary. The Speaker was authorized to appoint the Standing Committees, and in order to afford him an opportunity to do so, the House adjourned until Monday. The Senate also adjourned until Monday.

We surrender a large portion of our space, this morning, to a full report of Hon. STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS' speech, delivered in the Senate on Wednesday, also of the debate which followed between that gentleman and Senator BIGLER, of Pennsylvania.

A Delegate Convention was held at Lawrence, Kansas, on the 2d inst., at which the entire Territory was represented. Governor ROBINSON presided. Resolutions were adopted utterly repudiating the Lecompton Constitution, and pledging ceaseless hostility to the entire action of the Convention which framed it. The Legislature is asked to pass a law providing that both the Lecompton and the Topeka Constitutions may be submitted to the people, in order that they may choose between them. This is an indication that the Free-State men have faith in their ability to choose or reject, as they please. Secretary STANTON received the thanks of the Convention for convening the Legislature.

It is rumored, on the authority of the special Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin*, that a rupture has actually taken place between the President and Colonel FORNEY, the latter having been refused admission when he called at the Executive Mansion. The statement, however, needs confirmation.

Hon. R. M. T. HUNTER has been reëlected to the United States Senate by the Virginia Legislature.

The steamboat *Fashion*, on board which General WALKER and his fillibusters departed from Mobile bay, Nov. 13, (nearly a month ago,) has not since been heard from, and the impression is fast gaining strength that the vessel foundered in a norther which overtook her shortly after leaving port. She was a little steamer, built for river navigation, and loaded very deeply with men, provisions, armament and coal.

The Philadelphia Common Council last evening ordered the District-Attorney to commence criminal proceedings against the Board of Health of that city, for forgeries and for obtaining moneys fraudulently from the City Treasury.

The College buildings at Bethany, Brook County, Va., were entirely destroyed by fire yesterday morning, with most of the contents.

Surrogate BRADFORD yesterday rendered his decision in the famous Parish Will case, substantially in favor of the contestants of the will, the brother and two sisters of the decedent. By the decision of the Surrogate the original will, executed in 1842—which was not contested—is admitted to probate with the first codicil which grants the mansion in Union-square and the property in Wall-street to the widow. The opinion of the Surrogate is exceedinly brief but clearly stated—the pressure of official duties consequent upon the close of his term of office rendering it impossible for him to state the reasons for his judgment at greater length. The party chiefly to be benefited by this decision is Mr. DANIEL PARISH, who will be the gainer of nearly a million of dollars by it, it should be acquiesced in by the widow. But the probability is that it will be taken up to the Court of Appeals. The costs of the suit, of both parties, are to be paid out of the estate.

The last meeting of the Young Men's Republican General Committee (which is not to be continued the coming year) was held last evening at No. 659 Broadway. The proceedings were interesting. Resolutions in reference to the principles of the Republican Party and the late election were adopted.

The Democratic Councilmen of the next Board have held caucus meetings for the purpose of choosing a President, and the result is two candidates—Messrs. HASWELL and ARCULARIUS. The latter gentleman was nominated by a caucus held on Tuesday last, on the corner of Broome and Forsyth streets. The friends of Mr. HASWELL were not present, and it is said they are determined upon presenting the name of Mr. HASWELL. If so, the new Board will probably find it difficult to make a choice. It is arranged, we believe, that Alderman CLANCY, President of the present Board of Aldermen, will preside over the new one.

At a recent meeting of the German Democratic Club, Dr. MEFFLE moved the immediate expulsion of all who had not voted for Mayor WOOD at the last election. After a stormy debate, the motion was lost and the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

The Board of Councilmen met last evening and got through a fair amount of miscellaneous business. An attempt to introduce some reforms into the management of the Fire Department was unsuccessful. The Board refused to raise the salaries in the office of the Corporation Attorney, and directed counsel to determine and report as to whether or no certain land in Twenty-first-street, upon which a pier is proposed to be built, be public or private property.

Superintendent TALLMADGE appeared before the Aldermanic Committee on Police, yesterday, and stated that from 1,000 to 1,200 persons appeared at the Station-houses nightly, for lodgings, and there were not accommodations for more than about 400. The Committee decided that they would report in favor of authorizing the Commissioners to convert those portions of the Station-houses not used for prisoners into lodging rooms; and, if that were not sufficient, to hire rooms in the vicinity of the Station-houses for their use; that facilities should be granted also for washing, cleansing, and, if necessary, for feeding the lodgers.

The Committee on Railroads of the Board of Councilmen have decided in favor of allowing the Fourth-avenue cars to run to Forty-second-street.

A stage-driver named MICHAEL HANIGAN was knocked down about 8½ o'clock last evening, at the corner of Twenty-third-street and Eighth-avenue, and run over by car No. 20 of the Eighth-avenue Railroad. Both of his legs were broken, and he was otherwise so injured that it was thought he could not recover. He was conveyed to the City Hospital.

The General Produce markets, yesterday, were more active for flour, sellers having shown more inclination to satisfy the wants of buyers, even at somewhat easier prices. The receipts were large. Wheat was in fair request, especially ordinary qualities, which were needed by shippers, at improved rates. Other kinds tended downward. Corn was dull and decidedly lower. Provisions and groceries presented no important variation. A very light business was reported in cotton at drooping rates. Freights exhibited no improvement.

PERSONAL.—Governor WALKER left this City yesterday, at 2 P. M., for Washington, *en route*, it is supposed, for Kansas.

The President and Kansas.

ELIA, in one of his essays, expresses an earnest curiosity to know, authentically and historically, who was the greatest fool that ever lived. Of the present generation he intimates his confidence that he could designate "the party:"—he was puzzled only when he attempted to carry his scrutiny into the past.

If the rumors from Washington are true, we fear that our generation will have still less difficulty in solving the problem than CHARLES LAMB encountered in his day. It is reported that President BUCHANAN has dismissed Mr. STANTON from the Kansas Secretaryship of State, for having convened the Legislature of that Territory in extraordinary session, and this, too, upon the mere telegraphic announcement of his action, without waiting to see the grounds upon which it is based. We are profoundly and studiously incredulous as to the truth of these reports. They seem to us so utterly at war with the reported prudence and caution for which the President has credit, that we shall be very reluctant to give them faith. If they prove to be true, President BUCHANAN has evinced an "alacrity in sinking" which Jack Falstaff, in his palmiest and most bloated days, might have envied.

We should like to know Mr. BUCHANAN'S objection to the meeting of the Kansas Legislature. Is there anything in that meeting *per se* at war with the Constitution of the United States? That body is chosen by the people of Kansas. It is the representative and embodiment of their sovereignty. Its acts are their acts;—and its meeting in open session is simply the means by which they can exercise that sovereignty which is their natural and inalienable right, and which was solemnly guaranteed to them by the Nebraska bill and by the Cincinnati platform upon which Mr. BUCHANAN was elected. The acting Governor STANTON, it seems, has afforded the people an opportunity of exercising their sovereign rights two or three weeks in advance of the regular period fixed by law,—and in this he has acted upon a discretion expressly conferred upon him by the Kansas-Nebraska bill.

Yet *for this* he is said to have been dismissed from office by President BUCHANAN!—without waiting to see the grounds upon which his action is based;—without giving him the slightest opportunity to explain or justify the motives of his proceeding;—without any knowledge of the temper and spirit of the Kansas people;—without any information as to the intended action of the Legislature, the President makes haste to eject from office the Secretary of his own appointment, for the simple act of having called the Legislature together. If anything can surpass the folly or fatuity of such conduct, it cannot be found in the history of this Government,—not even under the Administration of General PIERCE.

The speech of Senator DOUGLAS upon this exciting subject, which will be found at length in another portion of this morning's TIMES, stands in striking contrast with this strange and fatuitous conduct of the President. The doctrine of Popular Sovereignty is the cornerstone of the Democratic Party. It was the only principle put prominently forward in the late canvass;—it was the only one upon which all sections of the Democratic Party were united, and it is the only principle which can keep that party from flying into fragments. Senator DOUGLAS demands that it shall be maintained,—that it shall be made the base of public action,—and that the people of Kansas shall be allowed to act upon it in the regulation of their own affairs. A small clique of Pro-Slavery fanatics in Kansas, numbering not one-half of the Democratic Party, and not one-fifth of the people of Kansas, are determined to evade and overthrow it by fraudulent voting, by false returns, by legal quibbles, and by a direct refusal to submit the Constitution to the popular vote. And in this magnanimous and high-toned endeavor they are to be supported and assisted by a President who climbed into power upon the very ladder which he is now determined to kick from under him!

As a party contest, or for its partisan consequences, we do not care a straw for the dissension which has arisen between these two leaders of the Democratic Party. It may, or may not, divide that party and aid the chances of its opponents. Upon the one side is the President with the patronage of the Government in his hands, and the tyranny of party discipline at his back. Upon the other stands a man of more marked ability, and of greater courage,—sustained by the principles of his party and backed by the moral sentiment of the whole country. We have not the slightest doubt with which side the victory will finally rest. If he persists in this insane crusade, the President is doomed to a signal and ignominious defeat. Whether with his aid, or against his efforts, the people of Kansas will be permitted to vote upon their fundamental law.

A Chance Lost.

Gen. HAMILTON, whose death by the steamboat disaster near New-Orleans we have already noticed, was about to be elected to the Senate of the United States. In another column will be found a letter written at New-Orleans, in which he proclaimed the objects which he should endeavor to accomplish, if he should become a member of either House of Congress. The leading measure which he had in view was the entire abolition of the present Tariff System and the substitution of *Direct Taxation*.

We regret exceedingly that Gen. HAMILTON did not live to carry his purposes into effect. We agree with him in thinking it very doubtful whether he would have succeeded in carrying such a measure through Congress. But he would have stirred up debate upon it and brought the whole subject strongly and vividly before the public mind. And we think it not at all unlikely that he might have started a movement which would have ended in the consummation which he considered so desirable.

The fact is, the people of the whole country are becoming more and more dissatisfied with the existing system of raising money for the expenses of the Government. Its burdens fall unequally upon the various branches of industry, and the impossibility of bringing home to each person the amount which he contributes to the public treasury, or the fact that he contributes anything at all, removes a very important check upon extravagance in the public expenditures. A direct tax, on the other hand, would be perfectly fair and equa in its operation, and under it every individual would know precisely his own share in the burdens of the country.

The fact, too, that under such a system *three thousand million of dollars* invested at the South in slaves would contribute its constitutional proportion of *three-fifths* to the support of the Government, would probably go far towards reconciling the other sections of the country to the great and important change which Gen. HAMILTON proposed. He might have found it possible, therefore, to carry into practical effect the system which he desired, without recourse to the revolutionary measures which he contemplated.

Whether Governor HAMMOND will feel called upon to adopt this programme of the lamented statesman we are not aware. We should not regret to see the subject introduced in Congress and pressed upon public attention.

The Utah Expedition.

The fate which seems to impend over the expedition to Utah wears, in some sort, the aspect of retributive justice. It was delayed so long in Kansas, meddling in matters in which it had no business to meddle, that the Winter has caught it, while the advanced guard is still on this side the mountains. From the very outset, misfortunes seemed to attend it. Great numbers of the trained soldiers of whom it was originally composed deserted; and it set out on its march so late in the season that the grass has failed, and the snow fallen heavily, before it has made the smallest preparation for its own salvation during the cold weather. For the present it is quite clear, our main anxiety must be, not as to whether we shall within the next six months subdue BRIGHAM YOUNG, but whether we shall next Spring have a single man or officer of the old force to begin the next campaign with.

It was quite clear that all the arrangements were made, in the idea that we should enter the city of the saints without opposition, and simply use the troops as Governor CUMMING'S *posse*, for the subsequent enforcement of the laws. In short, the expedition was fitted out, as was that of the British to Turkey in the late war, as a corps of observation in the suite of a plenipotentiary. It took with it an enormous baggage train, carrying everything necessary for the troops from Kansas to Utah, and this was all very well, but the very important item of forage for the mules seems to have been lost sight of. It now turns out that in this particular the grass on the plains was wholly relied on, and if the force had only started early enough in the season, this would have served them in just as good stead, as it serves some thousands of emigrants every Summer. But the fact is that they did not start early enough, and the result is that the grass has failed, the mules are dropping off, and with them drop off, of course, the stores of every kind. The scarcer the herbage, the greater the necessity for marching in small detachments, and the natural consequence is that the Mormons are enabled to perpetrate such outrages on these small bodies with impunity, as those of which each mail now brings tidings.

It may fairly be laid down as a rule that a military force should never be employed without taking every precaution to insure its efficiency as a fighting machine. Threatening demonstrations, without being prepared to support them vigorously, are neither very dignified in those making them, nor very fair towards those whom they employ. If the Mormons are only half as great a nuisance and disgrace as all accounts represent them to be, a proper regard for our own dignity as well as for the safety of our troops would have dictated the dispatch of 6,000 men in June, instead of 2,500 in the Fall. Nobody of course doubts for a moment what the issue of this contest will be, but surely the gallant men whom we have sent to vindicate the national supremacy in the defiles of the Rocky Mountains were entitled to every guarantee against all perils, save those of actual conflict, which care and forethought could supply. There is nothing very alluring in the service, under its best aspects. The field is remote and the foe ignoble, but the authorities have aggravated its drawbacks, by placing amongst their number the chance of a dog's death.

A DANIEL COME TO JUDGMENT.—Mr. Justice FINN, who now occupies a seat on the Bench of the Superior Court, has published a correspondence between Judge DUER and himself, relative to his claim to wear the ermine, and his own letter, is, we presume, intended to make the public acquainted with his side of the case. We are sorry to say we do not see that it very much improves his position. Of his technical right to the position he claims no one entertained much doubt.

The law of the matter was pretty well settled in the case of Judge DAVIES. Legally the omission of the Secretary of State to announce a vacancy is of no sort of consequence, and an election carried on without it is perfectly valid. What the public wanted to know was whether Mr. FINN'S course was one which became a gentleman and a member of the bar, whether, in short, he was not taking advantage of a miserable quibble to bring the Judiciary office into ridicule and disrepute: and these are just the points on which this enterprising young gentleman has done nothing to satisfy us. We all knew well enough that the opinion of the Judges upon his conduct would have no binding force. They are, as he says, simply "the individual views of several highly respectable gentlemen," but it seems to us that the "individual views" of such men as DUER and BOSWORTH upon a point of professional conduct, ought to be received by such men as FINN with just as much respect as if they were solemn judgments upon a real case in open court.

The second "point" in his letter, in which he informs Judge DUER that he holds office by the same tenure as his "associates;" that they are all the creatures of popular suffrage—is a very impertinent quibble, and Mr. FINN must have known it to be so when he wrote it. He is not the creature of popular suffrage. To entitle him to be so considered, the fact that a vacancy existed should have been notorious, his candidateship should have been notorious, and the whole of the electors should have had an opportunity of voting for or against him, if they thought fit. His election was a dodge wrought in the dark. To give it any moral weight, publicity was absolutely necessary, and publicity he knows perfectly well would have left him in a miserable minority, if not deterred him from entering the field at all. He is in no way qualified to be a Judge—neither in experience nor in knowledge—and to climb up to the Bench by the aid of a political trick is not simply an insult to the eminent men who are forced to sit beside him, but a fraud upon the people. He knows perfectly well with what object there were no nominations made, and he knew that if the public felt it needed a Judge in the Superior Court between this and January, it would never have placed FINN in the chair of Chief-Justice OAKLEY.

We suppose, in charity, that the young gentleman's main object is to advertise himself, but in this advertising age there are a thousand ways of making the public acquainted with his existence and his calling, without caricaturing the office of Judge. Any other freak, in which less impudence was displayed, and the consequences of which would have affected himself alone, would have served his purpose equally well. He might have walked up Broadway with his coat turned inside out, sawed a load of wood at his office door, worn a placard on his back, climbed a greased pole in the Park, or performed the great knife-catching trick on the steps of the City Hall. Mountebank dexterity is evidently his forte, but why select the Superior Court as the scene of his performances?

The Sentence of Rodgers.

We understand that a movement has been made in favor of RODGERS, the murderer of SWANSTON, and that Governor KING will be petitioned to commute his sentence. It is not our wish or intention to throw any obstacle in the way of these philanthropic efforts;—we simply desire to direct attention to certain points which should be carefully considered by those who are disposed to sign a petition for mercy, and by the Governor before he exercises his high prerogative.

The circumstances connected with the murder of SWANSTON must be still fresh in the minds of our readers, and need not be repeated. There was no street fight, in which knives were drawn and the passions of the combatants were, for the moment, inflamed. There was no insult, real or supposed—no angry words passed between the slayer and his victim. But it was a wanton, deliberate murder, committed by RODGERS upon a man who had not offended him in word or deed, and who, with his wife, was peaceably walking along one of the principal avenues of the City. The petitioners for Executive clemency in this case seek in vain for a reasonable ground upon which to rest their claims to a commutation of punishment. They are only able to urge, in the prisoner's behalf, his extreme youth, and his intoxication at the time he committed the offence—two facts that render his crime all the more terrible! About the history of this murder there is no mystery—no conflicting evidence. The criminal is one of a large class of ruffians who, night after night, prowl around our streets. They are worse than Sepoys in their brutality, and more cowardly in their method of assault. They linger at street corners waiting for their prey. They strive to provoke a fight with some harmless passer-by, and woe to that passer-by if he is not prepared to defend himself. They know no mercy; their instincts are bloodthirsty; they leave their homes in search of blood, and are only satisfied when blood has been spilt; they are outcasts from society, and at war with everything honest and true. They have made this City a shame and a disgrace to the whole Union, and the impunity with which they are permitted to perpetrate crime is thrusting us back into a state of semi-civilization in which every man looks to himself, and himself alone, for protection. This class of rowdy is composed of youths from fifteen to twenty-five. Older ruffians go about their business more cautiously, for they have learnt, by experience, that a long residence in the State Prison is attended with unpleasant consequences. The young New-York rowdy is an enemy more dangerous to society than the burglar or the robber. The latter do not murder without cause; the former murder, he cares not whom, simply for murder's sake. His weapon is ever ready to his hand. If Smith or Jones had stood in the place of SWANSTON, it would not have made the slightest difference. RODGERS was bent on stabbing some one. With all his alleged intoxication, he was never for a moment oblivious to his cruel instincts. He was not too drunk to draw his knife; he was not too drunk to resist successfully the efforts of his two friends, who tried, by personal violence, to restrain him; and he was not too drunk to select SWANSTON as his victim, and inflict a well-directed blow that was instantly fatal.

We have before expressed our conviction that all the circumstances of this murder tend to aggravate rather than palliate its enormity. It was brutal in its conception and execution, and if the youth or the drunken excesses of the criminal are to be received in extenuation of his offence, a most dangerous precedent will be established—one, we have no hesitation in saying, that will be utterly opposed to the best interests of society. It is high time that a decided warning was given to the ruffians with whom it swarms. Their special crimes are not so much robberies and burglaries as they are assaults and murders, and to stop their frequency there ought to be no other means employed than a just, impartial, and rigid execution of the law. Let that be done and it will be sufficient.

THE DECISIONS OF THE NAVAL COURTS OF INQUIRY.—The intimation in the Report of the Secretary of the Navy that the President had approved of all the findings by the Naval Courts of Inquiry which had been submitted to him, must create a feverish anxiety among the officers who have been examined, to know what their fate will be. But, as it is understood that no publication of the findings will be made until all the cases have been decided, it will probably be some time before the result can be known. By the action of the Naval Retiring Board the number of officers who were either furloughed, put on leave-pay or dropped, consisted of 33 Captains, 36 Commanders, 82 Lieutenants, 25 Masters, and 14 Passed Midshipmen. It is understood that nearly all the cases that have to be examined are disposed of. Though nothing positive is known of the findings of the Courts of Inquiry, it is rumored, and generally believed, that eight or ten of the dropped officers are to be restored, and that about a third of those who have been examined will be returned to the active list.

Much Ado about Nothing.

The Mobile *Register* joins the Richmond *South* in declaring that "the Democracy of the South *will never submit*" to the rejection of Kansas by Congress, because her Constitution has not been offered to the popular vote. It says:

"The Democracy of the South are convinced that the action of the Convention has been strictly and entirely regular, legal, and in accordance with the principles and the letter of the act organizing the Territory; and so believing, they will insist, *at every hazard and at every cost*, that Kansas shall be admitted upon the application she is thus regularly and legally about to make."

All this would be very intelligible if the question of *Slavery* were involved in the issue:—for we have long since learned that neither Constitutions, laws, pledges, justice, honor, good faith or anything else ever stand in the way of the Southern chivalry when any advantage can be gained for their peculiar institution. But the *Register* proceeds to concede that the Slavery question is not connected with this case at all. It says:

"Though thus legally and fully authorized to frame and put into actual execution a State government—without any restriction requiring it to submit that form of government to be subsequently voted upon by the people—it has, however, seen fit, in a spirit of fairness that should have silenced and disarmed all cavil and opposition, *to submit the most important and vital feature to the popular vote*. It has, with a full knowledge of the numerical superiority of the Free-State Party in the Territory, *submitted the Slavery clause of the Constitution to the people*. It might have declined, as it was under no obligation from the nature and extent of its authority and discretion, to submit any portion of its work to the people."

Now, since the Convention acted with such needless and gratuitous magnanimity in submitting the *Slavery* question to the people, why not go a little further and submit the other questions also? Why should the South object to having other issues submitted to the same test as the one in which they are interested? Have they become all at once so intensely magnanimous, that they will dissolve the Union unless they are treated *worse* than the North?

We shall feel greatly obliged to the *Register* and the *South* if they will explain this very remarkable movement in favor of the Lecompton Constitution. What is the secret motive of their profound admiration of it? What do they expect to gain by forcing it through Congress and imposing it upon the people of Kansas? Do they hope to get Slavery into the new State after all by means of it, or is their object simply to invent and apply a new test to the fidelity of their Democratic brethren of the Northern States?

CHANGES OF A SEASON.—Last year the Democratic organs were very busy in magnifying the importance of giving the people of Kansas the absolute right to manage their own affairs. This year they are equally busy in proving that it is a matter of very little consequence whether they are allowed to do so or not. Last year they ridiculed the idea of making the fate of a Territory depend upon the fate of a few negroes. Now they are ridiculing the idea of allowing it to turn on anything else.

NOT NEAR SO BAD AS WE SEEM.—The times cannot be quite so bad as they have been represented, and the sufferings of the rich, at least, must have been somewhat exaggerated. In all the statements which have been published respecting the sale of Mr. GIHON'S splendid furniture, which was bought by Mr. BELMONT, and resold by him at auction, the original cost has been put at $40,000, and the amount which it brought at auction $10,000. The auctioneer corrects the errors in this statement by publishing the precise facts. The original cost of the furniture, according to Mr. LUDLOW, was but $30,000, and it brought $15,000 at auction on Monday. Now, this certainly evinces anything but a very distressed condition of affairs up town. A depreciation of only fifty per cent. in the sale of second-hand rosewood and satin damask is rather an encouraging symptom of the times at this season of the year. We shall not be surprised to hear that several other families sell off their fine furniture with a view to refurnishing their houses more gorgeously in the Spring.

White's Malt Manufactory.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1857.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

My attention has just been called to an editorial in the columns of your paper of yesterday, (Tuesday,) in which you comment in no very mild terms on the verdict of the Coroner's Jury, and the cause of the falling of a portion of the floors in my malt-house, corner of West and Bethune streets, on the evening of the 2d inst.

You seem to think the "ambiguous verdict" a just one, and join in censuring me for not being a "professional architect" and "builder," and think that my "niggardliness" in not employing one was "the cause of the sacrifice of two human lives." And you then state the cause of the accident to be the use of hemlock, instead of pine, on account of the expense. These are your main points of attack upon me.

No more need be said about the verdict, when it is known that the six Jurymen were as "ambiguous" as their verdict. One was a dealer in "Bricks," another a "Carpenter," one a "Mason," one a "Plasterer," another a "Painter," one a "Grocer," and the other a "Bar-keeper," all "practical builders," I suppose, certainly able to judge of a man's capability, if by nothing else than his age. The verdict was not in accordance with the evidence as given before the Coroner.

As to my being a capable "architect" and "builder," the testimony and the building bear me out in saying none could have done better. I may as well state here that I have had no pecuniary embarrassment during the construction of the building. Finally, I come to your reason for the cause of the accident, viz., hemlock instead of pine. The hemlock timbers fell through, so would pine, or cast-iron, when the posts give way first. I used hemlock floor-beams and cedar posts, for reasons known to every one acquainted with the manufacture of malt, and would have had them had they cost twice as much as they did. In conclusion I would state that I am a practical and scientific malster, and have superintended the construction of malt-houses since I was sixteen years of age, and have nearly completed the largest and best-constructed malt-house in the United States. MATTHEW WHITE.

Our comments upon this case were based upon the evidence submitted to the Coroner's Jury. There was a difference of opinion among the witnesses, some charging the disaster to the use of hemlock instead of pine, for beams, and others attributing it to defective posts. We must leave the evidence, the verdict, and Mr. WHITE'S letter, to speak for themselves.

☞ The Board of Directors of the American Indian Aid Society of this City adopted a preamble and resolutions at a meeting held Dec. 3, deploring the ill-treatment which the Indians receive at the hands of the white men, ascribing the decrease in their numbers to "rum, the rifle, the revolver, and contaminations of their white aggressors," and calling upon the friends of humanity all over the country to join in a petition to Congress, requesting the enactment of laws for the preservation and elevation of the few remaining tribes of red men which still survive at the West.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—VERDI'S popular opera of the "Traviata" will be played here to-night with LA GRANGE, BIGNARDI, ARDAVANI, &c., in the cast. It is the first time it has been played in two seasons.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE
By Telegraph to the New-York Times.

Magnetic Telegraph Co.'s Office—No. 48 Wall-st., and 192 Broadway.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Confirmation of General Denver as Secretary of Kansas—District-Attorney McKeon Not Yet Removed—Expected Issue of Treasury Notes, &c.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 10.

General DENVER was to-day confirmed as Secretary of Kansas by a large majority. Senator DOUGLAS was absent during the vote.

The impression prevails in some circles familiar with Kansas affairs, that the Legislature, when convened, instead of repealing the law authorising the Constitutional Convention, will pass one for the submission of the whole Constitution to the popular vote, and thus show how little it expresses the will of the people.

SLIDELL'S nominee for District-Attorney of New-Orleans is confirmed. I believe his name is THOMAS F. DURANT.

No nomination of a successor to District-Attorney MCKEON has yet been sent to the Senate. The difficulty is to decide on a selection. There is no intention to remove BUTTERWORTH or SANDERS. The President explicitly says that he does not blame MCKEON for not voting for WOOD, but for so openly violating party discipline.

Secretary COBB will soon make a specific recommendation for the issue of Treasury notes. Sub-Treasurer CISCO is now here to advise with him on the subject. It is earnestly urged on the President to make them three per cents, in the belief that in that case they will go into circulation, while, if six per cents, they will be hoarded. S.

[FROM THE REPORTER FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 10.

The nomination of Col. RICHARDSON as Governor of Nebraska was to-day confirmed by the Senate. This appointment implies that his position on the subject of Kansas is satisfactory to the Administration.

Gen. DENVER'S appointment as Secretary of State of Kansas, was confirmed by 29 Democratic votes to 19 Republicans against it. Mr. DOUGLAS was absent. Gen. DENVER has been telegraphed to at Boonville.

The removal of Governor WALKER is daily expected. It is stated, on high authority, that should he now move in the direction of Kansas, this would immediately follow.

THOMAS J. SEMMES has been appointed United States Attorney for the District of New-Orleans. His predecessor was removed on the ground that he did not use sufficient vigilance to prevent the escape of Gen. WALKER and party from that port.

Hon. NATHAN CLIFFORD'S appointment to supply the vacancy in the Supreme Court Bench, has not yet been definitely acted upon by the Senate.

[SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN.]

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 10.

It is stated quite positively that the President denied admission to Colonel FORNEY when he called on him. This is a commentary on the frailty of political friendships. Only the other day the President recommended for the United States Senatorship a man on whom he now shuts the door.

Senator DOUGLAS is denounced in very broad terms by the faithful among the Democracy for his course on the Kansas question. Still he is gaining ground fast.

XXXVth CONGRESS------First Session.

SENATE....WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 10.

Mr. SEWARD submitted a resolution, which lies over, directing the Joint Committee on Printing to inquire and report whether any new provisions of law are necessary to secure the faithful performance on the part of Congress of the existing contracts which provide for accurate reports of the debates of the two Houses.

Mr. DOUGLAS gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill at an early day to enable the people of Kansas to form a Constitution and State Government, preparatory to their admission into the Union.

Mr. FOOTE gave notice of a bill making grants of land to actual settlers.

The Senate then went into Executive Session, and upon the doors being opened,

Adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 10.

The Speaker appointed Messrs. SMITH, of Virginia, GROW, TAYLOR of New-York, NICHOLS, SMITH of Tennessee, MORSE, and DOWDELL, the Committee authorized to be appointed to examine into the subject of the public printing, and report such reforms as they may deem advisable.

On motion of Mr BANKS, the Speaker was authorized to appoint the Standing Committees, and in order to afford him an opportunity to do so, when the House adjourns, it shall be till Monday next

On motion of Mr. WARREN, a Committee was ordered to be appointed to report when the new hall can be occupied.

Mr. DOWDELL offered a resolution requesting ministers of the Gospel, residing in Washington, to alternately open the daily sessions of the House with prayer.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, presented petitions against the employment of chaplains by the Government, on the ground of its unconstitutionality.

A debate followed, in which it was stated that several ministers of the Gospel had tendered their gratuitous services.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. STEPHENS, of Georgia, offered a resoldtion, which was adopted, providing for the distribution of books, heretofore ordered, to new members.

Mr. LETCHER, (Va.,) took occasion to say that it was the duty of the House to stop the evil of book-distribution. Some volumes are now in preparation, a single one of which will cost $200,000. Everything to be printed should be first scrutinized, especially as lately they had heard so much about plunder.

The House then adjourned till Monday.

United States Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 10.

No. 7—*Levi Morrell* vs. *John G. Myers*.—In error from the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Maine.—The writ of error was dismissed at the cost of plaintiff.

No. 5—Before reported.—Argument continued for the appellees and concluded for the appellant.

No. 8—*William Wynn's, executor*, vs. *R. Morris, et al.*—Submitted without argument.

No. 12—*Josiah Garland* vs. *William Wynn's, executor*.—Also submitted.

Re-election of Senator Hunter.

RICHMOND, Va., Thursday, Dec. 10.

Hon. R. M. T. HUNTER was to-day reelected to the United States Senate for six years from the 4th of March, 1859, by a nearly unanimous vote.

Important from Kansas.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DELEGATE CONVENTION AT LAWRENCE—THE LECOMPTON CONSTITUTION REPUDIATED—THE COURSE OF SECRETARY STANTON APPROVED, ETC.

ST. LOUIS, Thursday, Dec. 10.

The *Democrat* has received letters from Kansas, to-night, containing the proceedings of the Delegates to the Convention held at Lawrence on the 2d inst. The entire Territory was represented. CHAS. ROBINSON was the President.

Resolutions were unanimously adopted repudiating the Lecompton Constitution; pledging ceaseless hostility to it; denouncing the elections to be held on the 21st inst. and 4th proximo; declaring that the Legislature elected on Oct. 5 shall not be suspended by any Constitution or State Government, until a fair and impartial vote be had; indorsing the Topeka Constitution, and requesting the Territorial Legislature, in their extra session, to frame an election law and submit the Topeka and Lecompton Constitutions to the people—the one receiving a majority of the legal votes to become the fundamental law of the State of Kansas.

A resolution was also passed, returning thanks to

Secretary STANTON for calling a special session of the Legislature.

Speeches were made by Governor ROBINSON, General LANE, and Messrs. TUCKER, REDPATH and others.

The Philadelphia Board of Health.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, Dec. 10.

Our Common Council this evening ordered the District-Attorney to commence criminal proceedings against the members of the Board of Health for forgeries, and for obtaining moneys fraudulently from the City Treasury. The City Solicitor was also directed to commence a civil suit against Messrs. KANE and SCHAFFER, the contractors for filling Prime-street lot, for an alleged overcharge.

An ordinance abolishing the present Board of Health was considered, but its legality was questioned. A very exciting debate took place upon it.

Serious Fire at Bethany, Va.

WHEELING, Va., Thursday, Dec. 10.

At 1 o'clock this morning the College Buildings at Bethany, Brooks County, this State, were entirely destroyed by fire. All the furniture, three valuable libraries, the extensive laboratories, the chemical apparatus, and a number of very important papers were also consumed. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

Condition of the Ohio.

CINCINNATI, Thursday, Dec. 10.

The weather is clear. Thermometer 35°. There are 21 feet water in the channel, and the river is rising.

Death of Colonel Paige, of Schenectady, etc.

SCHENECTADY, Friday, Dec. 10.

Col. JOHN KRIES PAIGE, an officer of the United States Army in the year 1812, clerk of the Supreme Court of this State in the year 1823, and a former Mayor of Albany, died at noon to-day at his residence in this city.

The weather here is mild, and boats are moving freely in the Canal.

Death of Col. Turnbull, U. S. A.

WILMINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 10.

Col. WILLIAM TURNBULL, of the United States Topographical Engineers, was found dead in his bed at a hotel this morning. He had died of disease of the heart.

Resignation of N. P. Banks as Member of Congress.

BOSTON, Thursday, Dec. 10.

Hon. N. P. BANKS, Governor elect of Massachusetts, has given notice that he will resign his seat in Congress about January 1st.

Railroad Casualty.

ZANESVILLE, Ohio, Thursday, Dec. 10.

Last night the mail train going East, on the Central Road, ran into a rock near Glencoe, smashing the engine and cars, and killing CHARLES E. BROWN, Express Messenger for ADAMS & Co. No others, fortunately, were seriously injured.

Robbery of a Custom-House.

OSWEGO, Thursday, Dec. 10.

The Custom-House in this city was entered last night by burglars, the safe blown open, and its contents, consisting of only about $500, taken. No clue to the burglars has been obtained.

Departure of the Antelope.

PORTLAND, Thursday, Dec. 10.

The steamship *Antelope* sailed from this port for Liverpool at 3 o'clock this morning.

Board of County Canvassers.

The Board reassembled at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. Alderman HARRIS in the chair.

The returns from the Eighteenth Ward were taken up.

Vote for Mayor—WOOD, 2,556; TIEMANN, 3,312.

For Almshouse Commissioner—DUGRO, 2,659; SMITH, 2,051; WAGNER, 99.

The Eighteenth Ward (part of the Fourteenth Aldermanic District) gives Valentine 1,388; Brakeley, 1,326; Bradley, 2,365; and Smith 306.

The Board then took a recess until 1 o'clock.

The Board reassembled at 1 o'clock, when the returns from the Thirteenth Ward were taken up:

Vote for Mayor—Wood, 1,800; Tiemann, 1,679.

For Almshouse Commissioners—Dugro, 1,823; Smith, 751; Wagner, 861.

The Thirteenth Ward (part of Eighth Aldermanic District) gives McConnell 968; Adams, 945; Walker, 328; Floyd, 382; Falconer, 53.

The same Ward (part of Sixth Aldermanic District) gives Tuomey 229; Bennett, 218; Scattering, 15.

The same Ward (part of Fourth Aldermanic District) gives Bennett 104; Lindsay, 102.

The returns for Councilmen of the Third District, Fourth Ward, were taken up and corrected. The Fourth Ward returns were then accepted as complete.

The Alderman of the Seventh Ward being absent, the Board adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

YOUNG MEN'S REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE—LAST MEETING.—The Young Men's Republican General Committee, which was organized a year ago, is not to be continued the coming year, the Central Committee not having made any provisions for its longer existence. The last meeting of the Committee was held last evening at No. 659 Broadway. After a large amount of sub-Committee business had been disposed of, two series of resolutions were offered and adopted. The first, proposed by Mr. CUSHING, declared that the Republican party is the party of progress, both moral and political, as clearly indicated by all its past history, and that the hopes of all good citizens for the overthrow of official corruption rest upon its future, and that "the appointment of men notorious as law-breakers and law-despisers,—men indicted for murder and other crimes against life and morality,—to high official stations, reflects neither the wishes of the Republican Party nor receives in any way their countenance or their support."

The second, offered by Mr. EVANS, congratulated Mr. TIEMANN on the victory achieved in his name of sound and honest Republicanism, which has ever guided the action of those who prefer their country's welfare to their own private aggrandizement, and pledging him a hearty support in carrying out all and every measure of reform.

In response to a resolution complimentary to himself, the Chairman, Mr. C. C. NOTT, made a neat and appropriate farewell speech, after which the Committee adjourned *sine die*.

GENERAL WALKER'S EXPEDITION.—On the night of the 11th of November, Gen. WALKER was arrested in New-Orleans, upon the affidavit of a Custom-House officer charging him with being about to depart upon an unlawful expedition against a friendly power. The next day, the 12th, Mr. SOULE appeared and gave bail in $2,000 for his appearance to answer, and he was discharged. On the same day he left on the boat for Mobile, but by prior arrangement intercepted the little steamer *Fashion* in Mobile Bay with a large number of men on board, with a supply of arms and ammunition, and with coal sufficient to reach some point on the coast of Central America. He embarked on board of her and she sailed on or about the 13th instant, and has not since been heard from. The lapse of nearly a month since the departure of the steamer, without any tidings from her, leads to the belief that she may have foundered at sea, and all on board have perished. The *Fashion* was a small steamer of only about 300 tons, of light draft, and built for river navigation. She was not, therefore, fitted for a sea voyage; besides, she was said to be poorly built. One account also states that she was loaded so deep that a person could stand on her guards and dip up a bucket of water from alongside when she went to sea. In view of all these circumstances, experienced persons are of the opinion that the *Fashion* probably encountered a norther in the Gulf soon after sailing, and being deeply loaded foundered and went to the bottom with all on board.

☞ The New-York County Homœopathic Society have under consideration a motion to petition the next Legislature to authorize the Society to grant licenses to practitioners and confer the degree of M. D. At their meeting last Wednesday evening, at their rooms at No. 105 Fourth-avenue, E. BAYARD, M. D., was elected President and E. M. KELLOGG, M. D., Secretary, for the ensuing year.

ILLNESS OF GENERAL PACKER.—General WILLIAM F. PACKER, Governor elect, while out hunting, about thirty miles north of Williamsport, ruptured a blood vessel, or strained himself in some way, which caused a hemorrhage of the lungs, and for a few days his danger was considered imminent, but we are happy to learn that he is now out of danger and able to be out of doors and receiving the congratulations of his numerous friends at the success enjoyed during the hunt, in the course of which the General shot a fine buck.—*Phil. Evening Bulletin.*

Sea and Ship News.

The bark *Nazarine*, Captain SMITH, from Gaspe, Canada East, for New-York, was stranded on the night of Nov. 21, in Gaspe Bay. The *N.* cleared from Gaspe on the 18th November, with a cargo of fish and shingles, which it is said will be mostly saved in good condition, if the weather holds good. The vessel was built in Bangor, Me., 1852, is 245 tons burden, rated A. 2, and owned by W. W. MERRIAM & Co.

SHIP EVA DORATHEY.—A letter to ELWOOD WALTER, dated Baltimore, Dec. 9, says:

"The Bremen ship *Eva Dorathey*, which went on shore on Saturday night last, three miles south of Cape Henry, was a new ship, on her first voyage, valued at some $40,000, owned and insured in Bremen, and consigned to Brothers BONINGER, of Baltimore. The passengers, 260 in number, arrived safely this morning in the steamer *North Carolina*. A dispatch received to-day from the beach, reports that the ship has bilged, and will probably be a total loss. A contract has been made to save her, if possible."

☞ The *Kangaroo*, hence yesterday for Liverpool, took out $169,380 in specie.

☞ The Penobscot River at Bangor, Me., which was closed by ice on Saturday, reopened on Sunday night.

COLLISION.—The bark *J. W. Andrews*, FRENCH, for Mobile, while attempting to get under way for sea, yesterday morning, with a pilot on board, came in contact with ship *Viking*, hence for San Francisco, which carried away the bark's foretop-gallant-mast, head of foretopmast, with topgallant-yard and rigging attached, also the mainroyal-mast. The *J. W. A.* was towed to the dock for repairs, while the *Viking* proceeded to sea, having sustained no damage.

☞ The steamship *Africa*, (Br.) SHANNON, for Liverpool, owing to the dense fog on Wednesday evening, anchored in the Narrows, and proceeded to sea yesterday morning at 7 o'clock.

☞ The Pilot Commissioners will petition the next Legislature to amend the law prohibiting the discharge of cinders and refuse matter from the steamboats in the neighborhood of the piers, so as to make the process against parties violating the law more stringent than it now is. Although the Commissioners have not been able to enforce the requirements of the statute on this head, they have put a check on the careless practice of tumbling coal into the slips, which has been so prevalent in former years, and has done such great injury to the dock facilities in both rivers. A canvas is now required to be spread between the vessel and the dock while the coal is going on board, for the purpose of catching the lumps, which would otherwise fall into the water. The Commissioners also wish some more effectual provision inserted in the law to prevent the dumping of night-soil into the dock, which is a nuisance of long standing. The law requires that night-soil shall be removed from the City between 11 P. M. and 2 A. M., and some of the cart-drivers, availing themselves of the darkness, dump their noisome loads into the water, at some convenient point, instead of emptying it into the scow which is provided for carrying the filth away. This practice is detrimental to the public health, very injurious to the harbor, and ought to be stopped.

Police Intelligence.

A NAVAL OFFICER VICTIMIZED AT A GAMBLING HOUSE—NATURAL DELICACY.—A feature of New-York is its "gambling hells." One cannot go up Broadway without passing by a dozen. Only the initiated, however, know their location and the "open sesame" to their interior. Once within the portals there is the fullest freedom—freedom to gaze on the magnificent furniture—freedom to banquet without cost on canvas-backs and choicest wines—and, *freedom to lose one's money.* The uninitiated find their way within, generally, through the agency of "decoy ducks," who hang about the hotels for the express purpose of "roping in" unconscious victims. A majority, of course, lose all their money; but, although the amount may be large, the whole affair is so genteelly done that they prefer to swallow the loss as graciously as possible, and satisfy themselves with having become "posted" and wiser. Hence, few complaints of losses ever reach the police authorities, which is very satisfactory to the gambling-house proprietors, and allows them to grow fat, rich and law-defiant. Occasionally there is an exception, as shown in the following instance:

A few days since a Southern gentleman, who was, or is, at the present time, an officer in the United States Navy, arrived in town and put up at the St. Nicholas. A decoy was not long in initiating himself into his good graces, and playing the agreeable by showing him the leading town sights, ending, as usual in such cases, by a visit to a gambling-house, to take a "glimpse of the tiger," as the more knowing ones phrase it. The Southern gentleman was delighted and grateful. He showed his delight by drinking freely of the costly wine set before him, and his gratitude by playing at "faro." In an hour's time he lost about $2,000. This was on Wednesday night. yesterday morning the losing gentleman woke up with a headache, and to the consciousness that he had foolishly lost what he could ill afford to lose. He called on Superintendant Tallmadge, and, detailing the loss, wished to know if he could not regain possession of his money. The General Superintendant gave the matter into the care of Mr. Samuel Brevoort, his Special Aid, who soon succeeded in recovering the full amount lost and restoring it to its original owner. The name of the victim is withheld by Mr. Brevoort out of regard to the penitent gentleman, his family and his official position. With less obvious reason the Aid forgets to mention the location of the gambling-house and the name of its proprietor, remarking that the proprietors of gambling-houses greatly disliked to have published in the papers the fact of their ever restoring money, since, if known, it would create a terrible "run" upon them which would speedily ruin their business. They rely on the pride and "honor" of their victims for a quiet resignation to their losses, however dishonestly caused.

STABBING IN THE FOURTH WARD.—Wednesday afternoon some of the occupants of the tenant-house No. 92 James-street got into a squabble, during which James Hanley was severely beaten and stabbed. Gustavus Prendegrast, Mary his wife and Catharine Perchley were arrested, and the wounded man was taken to the City Hospital. The arrested parties were locked up in the Tombs by Justice CONNOLLY to await the result of the injuries inflicted on Hanley.

THE SHOOTING AFFAIR IN THE ELEVENTH WARD.—Mr. Herdeman and his wife, who were badly beaten Wednesday night by Luke Wisely and Phillip McGuire, yesterday preferred a formal complaint before Justice WOOD, at the Essex Market Police Court. The Justice locked the assailants up to answer in default of $800 bail each.

A PRECOCIOUS YOUTH.—A boy, 14 years of age, giving his name as James W. Garretty, was arrested yesterday by the Police of the Tenth Ward, having in his possession a six-barreled revolver and a bowie-knife. Each barrel of the revolver was heavily loaded. The boy said he got the articles to defend himself against boys who had threatened to "lick him." Justice WOOD locked the young desperado up to keep him out of harm's way.

Deaths and Casualties.

SUDDEN DEATH AT THE PEOPLE'S BATHING ESTABLISHMENT.—An unknown man who has been in the habit for some time of taking vapor baths at the People's Bathing establishment, No. 141 Mott-street, yesterday afternoon took ill while bathing and soon died.

FATAL FALL.—John A. Wilkins, grocer, at No. 62 Reade-street, while ascending a flight of stairs yesterday morning, with a basket of coal, stumbled and fell, seriously injuring himself. He died in the afternoon, and an inquest will be held on the body today.

FALL THROUGH A HATCHWAY.—Yesterday afternoon Thomas Gibson, a clerk in the store No. 25 Park-row, fell through the hatchway from the fifth story to the basement, fracturing his skull and injuring him internally. He was carried to the Hospital, but his recovery is doubtful.

ANOTHER FALL.—A German plasterer, whose name is unknown, fell yesterday afternoon from the roof of the building No. 17 Chatham-street, to the second floor, and was seriously injured. He was taken up insensible and sent to the City Hospital.

☞ The 6th Regiment New-York State Militia and the 1st Regiment New-York Volunteers are each about to don new uniforms. That of the Volunteers will be similar to the dress of the Scott Battalion of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

LECTURE.—HORACE GREELEY lectures this evening at Clinton Hall, before the Young Men's Philomathean Society, upon "Poets and Poetry." Admission 15 cents.

THE SHOOTING CASE ON STATEN ISLAND.—When the shot was fired which accidentally killed the boy who was shot on Staten Island, on Thanksgiving day, the target stood in the garden of Mr. THOMAS CHILDS, Jr., who was himself shooting at it with the boys. Only a board fence intervened between the target and a public thoroughfare, and the shots endangered several persons in the neighborhood. Mrs. CALHOUN, the mother of the boy shot, applied to a Justice at Northfield, for a summons against Mr. CHILDS, but the official declined to act in the matter. She then applied to Dr. WATSON, Justice of the Peace residing near the Four Corners, who immediately granted a summons. Mr. CHILDS, accompanied by his counsel, Mr. LOT C. CLARK, appeared before Justice WATSON, and denied his jurisdiction, &c. The Justice, however, firmly administered the law, and in consequence of some language employed by the defendant, promptly threatened to commit him for contempt unless it was retracted. The result was that Mr. CHILDS proposed a compromise to the mother of the youth, paying the physician's expenses and $150 for compensation.

☞ The Rochester *American* has ceased to exist. Its establishment is merged in that of the Rochester *Democrat*, which becomes henceforth exclusively a morning paper, holding its old Republican principles.

Incipient Mutiny in the Democratic Camp—Deserters to be Shot.

From the Washington Union.

THE DRED SCOTT DECISION REPUDIATED.

"Will the *Times* answer us? 'Does the Constitution carry Slavery anywhere?' That is more patent to the case than the 'words of any decision.'"—*Journal.*

"No Slavery exists in several of the States *under* the Constitution. Other States and Territories may, under the Constitution, establish Slavery, but Slavery exists nowhere, nor is it carried anywhere, by *virtue or operation* of the Constitution."

We clip the above paragraph from the Chicago *Times* to indicate the danger into which some of our friends are drifting by abandoning the Democratic position of the administration upon popular sovereignty. A few months ago, and the inaugural of President BUCHANAN, followed as it was by the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, was hailed with one acclaim from one end of this Union to the other *as embodying the doctrine of the Democratic party on the Slavery question.* It was the first time in the history of the agitation of the question where and when the North and the South stood upon a common platform, rendered impregnable from the fact that it had received the sanction of the legislative, the executive, and the judiciary departments of the Government.

It seems, however, that when the practical operation of the principle is brought before the country, either from timidity or some other cause, some few are disposed to hesitate; the result of which is seen in *the total abandonment of a principle which we supposed and had hoped no Democrat would ever deny.* How inconsistent is the position of the *Times* with the deserved compliments that every Democratic journal in the Union paid to President BUCHANAN'S letter to the clergymen of Connecticut! These reflections are given more in sorrow than anger, for as certain as the sun shines *the repudiation of the doctrine to which we have referred will land the dissenters in the ranks of the opposition.* Our only security as a political organization is to maintain the principles of the party *at all and every hazard*, whether the working of the same offends the prejudices of this or that section. Having vindicated our principles fearlessly and boldly, we need have no fears as to the verdict of the people.

Test of Fire-Arms at the Washington Arsenal.

From the Washington Union of Thursday.

The Secretary of War, members of the British, French, and Austrian Legations, officers of the Army and Navy, with many distinguished civilians, were present yesterday, by appointment, at the Washington Arsenal, to witness experimental tests of inventions of great importance.

A patent train-fuse, invented by GOMEZ and MILLS, appeared to possess all the advantages of the galvanic battery in velocity of ignition, while, as it is not detonating, it cannot be exploded by any chance blow. Cannon were fired with it almost quicker than thought, at a long distance, and it was fired thirty yards under water.

HALE'S improved rocket was also satisfactorily tested. The rockets were fired from their carriage, and struck with remarkable accuracy at a distance of 950 yards. They gave the greatest satisfaction.

The great feature of the exhibition, however, was the test of the breech-loading rifle of Mr. MORSE, of Louisiana, which proved a remarkable weapon, possessing many points of novelty and of excellence. The mechanism by which the breech of the gun is opened for loading is simple, yet strong and secure. The charge is contained in small metallic cartridges, which have at one extremity a conical-pointed, hollow ball; then comes the very small amount of powder required; and at the other extremity is the percussion-cap.

These cartridges can be easily loaded, are waterproof, and can be used for a long time. The piece is loaded and fired in four motions, viz.: the first opens the breech, withdraws the shell of the last cartridge fired and cocks the piece; at the second motion the loaded cartridge is inserted; the third motion closes the breech; and at the fourth motion the cock can be let down, or the piece fired. After the most severe tests there was no evidence of the escape of the charge or of any gas, except at the muzzle of the piece.

The accuracy with which the rifle can be fired is truly astonishing, and was conclusively proved. The Secretary of War used one with great effect, hitting a mark at eight hundred and fifty yards' distance, and other gentlemen gave equally satisfactory proofs of the excellency and the accuracy of this wonderful weapon. The facility with which it can be loaded and fired was also perfectly demonstrated, and the utility of the weapon was more fully shown by placing it under water, letting it remain there, and then firing it. It was also placed under water when loaded and then fired, neither did the admixture of sand with the water clog the movement of the lock. Nothing can be more perfect than its operation, or more accurate than its aim, and it received the highest praise from the many distinguished and qualified judges present.

Lafayette and Washington.

The following is a copy of a letter from Gen. LAFAYETTE to Gen. WASHINGTON, the original of which is in Washington. The superscription is in these words: "His Excellency General WASHINGTON, Mount Vernon, Virginia:" and its date is furnished by the following indorsement on its back in WASHINGTON'S handwriting: "From the Marquis De la FAYETTE, August, 1784."

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday Evening.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have already had the pleasure to acquaint you with my arrival in America, and am endeavoring to reach Mount Vernon as soon as possible. My first plan was only to stay here two days, but the affectionate reception I have met with in this city, and the returning some compliments to the Assembly, render it necessary for me to stay one day longer. On Friday I will be at the head of Elk, the next day at Baltimore, and by Sunday or Monday I hope at last to be blessed with a sight of my dear General. There is no rest for me until I go to Mount Vernon. I long for the pleasure to embrace you, my dear General, and the happiness of being once more with you will be so great that no words can ever express it. In a few days I'll be at Mount Vernon, and I do already feel delighted with so charming a prospect. My best respects wait upon Mrs. WASHINGTON, and not long after you receive this I shall tell you myself how respectfully and affectionately I have the honor to be, my dear General,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

LAFAYETTE.

In case your affairs call you to the Springs, I beg leave either to go there after you, or to accompany you in your journey.

SHOCKING MURDER IN BALTIMORE.—About 8 o'clock on Tuesday night, a young colored man LEVEN LAKE LEE was shot and killed at the public house of ALEXANDER FARRELL, on Little Hughes, between Light and Charles streets. LEE, who boarded at No. 8 Barnum's-court, close by, had gone into the house at the hour named, as was his custom, for the purpose of getting his supper. He had finished his meal, and was about paying for the same, when the door was stealthily opened by some persons on the outside and pushed slightly ajar. LEE retreated toward a door which led into the yard, whilst a companion of his, named NOAH KING, jumped behind the door, which was suddenly opened wide, and a party of white men rushed past in a stooping posture and disguised by their clothing. One with a revolver in his hand instantly pulled a slouch hat over his face, and drawing his coat around his person, aimed his pistol at LEE, who had reached the door; he pulled the trigger and the cap only exploded; a second barrel was discharged, the ball striking him in the back of the head. LEE fell in the yard and never spoke, dying in a moment after receiving the wound. The assassin then retreated, and the gang hastily left the scene together. Information of the murder was dispatched to Captain WOODS, of the Southern District Night Police, and, in about one hour after the shooting, Sergeants ROSENBERRY and CROUCH, with Officers SHANKS and HAUSE, effected the arrest of three suspected persons, named AUGUSTUS FORD, STEPHEN CROPPER and JOHN MEADSTAFF. On the person of one of the party a pistol was found, with the cap on the nipple of one barrel exploded, and another barrel empty.—*Baltimore Sun, Thursday.*

THE ENGLISH OPIUM EATER.—Late letters from one of the members of DE QUINCEY'S family, speak of the great writer as being in perfect health and seemingly a much younger man than he appeared forty years ago. He is at present residing in Edinburg, on a visit. He has two sons in the army, one daughter married to an officer in India, another married to a gentleman in Ireland, and the third and youngest, is the housekeeper at the cottage at Lasswade. The "old man eloquent" is now between seventy and eighty, and still uses opium as in former days.—*Boston Transcript.*

NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES.

Contents for Saturday, Dec. 12.

I.—PRESIDENT BUCHANAN'S FIRST MESSAGE—Entire.

II.—ABSTRACTS OF REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS—War, Navy, Post-Office, &c., &c.

III.—STRIKE OF THE ERIE RAILROAD.

IV.—EDITORIALS—The Mess.—England and Europe—The Treasury Report—Our Export Produce—Causes of the Late Panic—Tuckerman the Insolvent-robber.

V.—OPENING OF CONGRESS—Judge DOUGLAS' Speech on Kansas and the Message.

VI—SUMMARIES OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

VII.—AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT—Produce and Live Stock Markets.

THE WEEKLY TIMES is sent to subscribers by Mail or Express, at the following rates per annum:

One Copy, one year, for $2
Eight Copies, one year, for 12
Twenty Copies, one year, for 20

Each package must in every case be *sent to one name and address.* Additions may at any time be made to Clubs by the party in whose name the Club stands, and on terms of first remittance.

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Payment in all cases is required invariably in advance; and no paper will be sent until the receipt of the money. BILLS OF ALL SPECIE PAYING BANKS RECEIVED AT PAR.

All orders must be addressed to the PUBLISHERS OF THE WEEKLY TIMES, No. 113 Nassau-street.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

GENTLEMEN HAVING LARGE OR SMALL quantities of left-off clothing, second-hand furniture, carpets, &c., to dispose of, will receive the highest prices paid for same by calling at the store or addressing THOMAS B. CONROY, No. 46 Centre-st.

STOCKS AND NECK-TIES
Selling off at one-third the usual prices,
At No. 497 Broadway.
RICH SILK TIES at 25c and 50c. each.

PROF. ALEX. C. BARRY'S TRICOPHEROUS
Is the
BEST AND CHEAPEST ARTICLE
For DRESSING, BEAUTIFYING, CLEANING, CURLING, PRESERVING and RESTORING THE HAIR. Ladies, try it. For sale by all Druggists and Perfumers.

S. C. HERRING & CO.'S PATENT CHAMPION SAFES.—The subscribers, grateful for past favors, and finding that a discriminating public were bestowing their patronage to that extent that more warerooms were necessary to exhibit all their stock, have enlarged their dépôt, by opening an extensive ware and salesroom on Broadway, at No. 251, corner of Murray-st., opposite the City Hall. This enlargement of warehouse room, with the recent extensive enlargement of their factory, will enable the subscribers to keep on hand at all times a larger stock of fire and burglar-proof safes than any other establishment in the world. Particular attention will be had to constructing safes for private families to match with other furniture, for the security of plate and jewelry, (and housekeepers are invited to call and examine for themselves.) Also, will keep on hand and make to order, all kinds of money chests, vault doors and bank vaults, Hall's patent powder-proof locks for banks or store doors, Jones' patent permutation bank lock, and Crygier's patent letter lock, without key.

S. C. HERRING & CO.,
Nos. 135, 137 and 139 Water-st., and
No. 251 Broadway, cor. Murray-st., New-York.

WAUPUN, Wis., Aug. 24, 1857.

Mr. LANSING BONNELL, Milwaukee,
Agent for Herring & Co.'s Patent Safes:

DEAR SIR: The Herring Champion Safe that I purchased of you, was in my store at the time it was burned last March. The heat was so great that it melted off the brass plates and knob on the front of the safe. The door was warped so badly from the heat that I was obliged to cut it open. But I am happy to say to you, the contents of the safe were preserved to my *perfect satisfaction.*

Y. C. SNOW.

MARRIED.

COMSEY—HALSEY.—In this City, on Thursday, Dec. 10, by Rev. A. A. Wood, at the Central Presbyterian Church, Mr. CHARLES G. COMSEY to Miss MARY E., daughter of the late Wm. A. Halsey.

DONOHUE—BRADY.—In this City, on Thursday, Dec. 10, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, by most Rev. Archbishop Hughes, CHARLES DONOHUE and LUCY H. BRADY, daughter of Andrew Brady, Esq., all of this City.

REETER—ASTEN.—In Brooklyn, on Wednesday, Dec. 9, by Rev. W. S. Karr, A. P. REETER to ELLEN Y. ASTEN, daughter of Wm. Asten, all of Brooklyn.

FARRINGTON—RUSSELL.—In Brooklyn, on Wednesday, Dec. 9, by Rev. S. A. Baker, JOHN M. FARRINGTON, Esq., of New-York City, and Miss SARAH ANN RUSSELL, of Brooklyn.

SWIFT—BATES.—In Brooklyn, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 9, in St. Luke's Church, by Rev. J. W. Diller, WM. SWIFT, M. D., of Brooklyn, to NELLIE M., daughter of Levi Bates, Esq., of Boston.

DIED.

GROESBEECK.—In this City, suddenly, on Wednesday morning, Dec. 9, DAVID W. GROESBEECK of Albany, eldest brother of the late William W. Groesbeeck, of this City, in the 58th year of his age.

Funeral services will be held in the North Dutch Church, in the city of Albany, on Friday, Dec. 11, at noon. Friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

VANDERBILT.—In this City, on Thursday, Dec. 10, CATHARINE VANDERBILT, relict of the late John C. Vanderbilt, in the 71st year of her age.

Her friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, this morning, at 9 o'clock A. M., from her late residence, No. 108 West 16th-st. The remains will be taken to Oakhill Cemetery for interment.

GALLAGHER.—In this City, on Tuesday, Dec. 8, JAMES BRUNDIGE GALLAGHER, in the 34th year of his age.

☞ Baltimore and Louisville papers please copy.

HICKS.—In this City, on Thursday, Dec. 10, Mrs. MARY HICKS, wife of John Hicks, aged 82 years.

Her funeral will take place from her late residence, No. 42 Marion-st., on Saturday morning, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

RAINSFORD.—On Wednesday morning, Dec. 9, Miss CATHARINE RAINSFORD, aged 68 years.

The friends of the family are invited to the funeral services at Christ Church, New-Brighton, at 9½ o'clock, on Saturday morning. The steamboat leaves New-York at 8½ A. M. Her remains will be taken to Trinity Cemetery.

SELLECK.—In this City, on Wednesday, Dec. 9, SMITH ELY, infant son of Wm. W. and Susan M. Selleck, aged 8 months.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from the residence of his parents, No. 168 West 18th-st., at 1 o'clock P. M., on Friday, Dec. 11.

☞ Watertown, Jefferson Co., N. Y., and Lyons, Iowa, papers please copy.

FERRIS.—In this City, on Wednesday morning, of consumption, Mr. GEORGE L. FERRIS, aged 30 years.

His friends and relatives, and those of his father Nathaniel Ferris, are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, without further notice, on Friday afternoon, Dec. 11, at 1½ o'clock, from No. 18 Pike-st.

LAMBERT.—In Brooklyn, on Thursday morning, Dec. 10, ELIZABETH A., wife of Edward A. Lambert, aged 46 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, on Saturday, Dec. 12, at 2 o'clock P. M., from her late residence, in Clinton-av., corner of Gates av.

LALOR.—At Utica, Oneida, on Wednesday, Dec. 9, of disease of the heart, RICHARD WILLIAM LALOR, aged 33 years.

BOLTON.—At Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England, on Thursday, Nov. 19, Rev. ROBERT BOLTON, of Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y., aged 69 years.

HARDENBERGH.—At Jersey City, on Wednesday, Dec. 9, LEWIS D. HARDENBERGH, aged 55 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, from his late residence, No. 59 Morris-st., Jersey City, at 2 o'clock P. M., this day, without further invitation.

RICH AND COSTLY FANCY GOODS.

FRANCIS TOMES & SONS,
No. 6 Maiden-lane,
Offer to the public
UNTIL THE 1ST OF JANUARY,
AT RETAIL,
Their large wholesale stock of fancy goods of the present season's importation,
AT
GREATLY REDUCED PRICES
FOR CASH.

WATCHES AT WHOLESALE.

TO DEALERS IN
WATCHES AND JEWELRY.
The subscribers offer for sale
AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES,
for the December season,
THEIR WHOLE STOCK OF
LOCLE, GENEVA AND ENGLISH WATCHES,
also of LEONTINE, CHATELAINES, LAVALLIERES, and other GOLD CHAINS, all 18 carats fine.
VE. J. MAGNIN, GUEDIN & CO.,
Importers, No. 15 Maiden Lane, up stairs.

ENORMOUS REDUCTION FOR CASH.

OUR UNRIVALLED STOCK OF FINE CHINA DINNER SETS, TEA SETS, TOILET SETS, PARIAN BRONZES, CLOCKS, CHANDELIERS, PLATED WARE AND CUTLERY,
Must positively be reduced one half, and we are therefore offering our goods for cash at prices lower than they have ever been sold in the United States.
E. V. HAUGHWOUT & CO.,
Corner of Broadway and Broome-st.

GAS FIXTURES,

CHEAP, CHEAP, CHEAP.
Look through our magnificent stock and compare prices with those of any other establishment in the City, and then decide where
IT WILL BE FOR YOUR INTEREST TO PURCHASE.
COLT & WHITTELSEY,
No. 922 Broadway, corner of 21st-st.

LOOK OUT FOR BURGLARS.—EXTRA Safe Night Latches, wrought and cast Locks of every description, Secret Bolts, plated and porcelain Knobs, Mortise Bolts iron, brass, and plated Chain Bolts, of extra quality; and every variety of fastenings for doors, Windows and Shutters, all at panic prices.
MANY, BALDWIN & MANY,
No. 49 John-st., corner of Dutch-st.

ANOTHER CHANCE.

We will open TO-DAY and TO-MORROW:
200 sets Gilt Band French China Tea Ware, at..... $6 45
100 sets Gilt and Colored French China Tea Ware, at. 10 25
30 sets Gilt Band Dinner Ware, at..... 42 00
20 sets Gilt and Colored Dinner Ware, at..... 45 00
20 sets Extra Rich Gilt and Colored Dinner Ware, at. 75 00
The Tea Sets contain
44 PIECES.
The Dinner Sets contain
150 PIECES.
And all are offered at about fifty cents on the dollar.
They will be displayed on the floor of our chandelier room, second story. Our entire stock of Glass, Gas Fixtures and Silver-Plated Ware at equally inviting prices.
Silver-Plated Tea Spoons, the dozen..... $1 25
Silver-Plated Table Spoons, the dozen..... 3 50
Silver-Plated Table Forks, the dozen..... 3 75
Silver-Plated Castors, six cut Bottles..... 4 50
Silver-Plated Tea Sets, six pieces..... 19 50
Silver-Plated Coffee Urns..... 10 00
W. J. F. DAILEY & CO.
Nos. 631 and 633 Broadway,
Between Houston and Bleecker sts.

TO DEALERS IN CLOTHING.

NEW GOODS,
At prices to suit the times.
We have just received a large
and beautiful assortment of
FANCY CASSIMERES.
We offer, also,
Every description of goods needed by
Merchant Tailors and Clothiers,
For cash and on time.
No goods cut except for the trade.
HALSTED, STILES & CO.,
Nos. 52 and 54 Murray-st., up stairs.

AN ANTI-SLAVERY FAIR, PARTLY FOR the aid of fugitive slaves passing through New-York, and partly for the support of the Anti-Slavery cause, will open at CLINTON HALL, Mercantile Library building, Astor-place, on MONDAY EVENING, Dec. 7, and continue TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, day and evening. A great variety of useful articles, suitable for housekeepers and for holiday gifts, many of which cannot be found elsewhere, will be offered.

TO RENT—AS MAY BE REQUIRED—FROM THE 1st of January to the 15th of March. The new Galleries of the National Academy of Design, 16th-st and Broadway. Inquire of T. S. CUMMINGS, No. 58 East 13th-st.

A GORGEOUS AND TASTEFUL GIFT-BOOK.
HARPER & BROTHERS,
Nos. 327 to 335 Pearl-st., (Franklin-square,)
PUBLISH THIS DAY:
THE POETS OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.
Selected and edited by
REV. ROBERT ARIS WILMOT.
With English and American additions, arranged by
EVERT A. DUYCKINCK,
Editor of "Cyclopedia of American Literature."
Comprising selections from the following authors:
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AMERICAN MISSIONARY LOSSES IN INDIA.—The Calcutta correspondent of the *Nonconformist*, a journal published in London, gives the particulars of the losses incurred by various Christian missions in Upper-India. From his statement it appears that the Americans have been compelled to bear their proportion of suffering. Four of our clergymen were massacred. Their names are already known, but we republish them as follows:

Rev. J. E. FREEMAN, Futtehhgur, American Presbyterian Mission.
Rev. D. E. CAMPBELL, Futtehhgur, American Presbyterian Mission.
Rev. A. O. JOHNSON, Futtehhgur, American Presbyterian Mission.
Rev. R. MACMULLIN, Futtehhgur, American Presbyterian Mission.

The wives of these missionaries, with two of Mrs. CAMPBELL'S children, were also among the killed.

The same correspondent enumerates the property losses which the Christian missions have sustained in consequence of the Sepoy outbreak. The total amounts to some $354,000; of which the English Church Missionary Society loses $160,000, and the American Presbyterian Mission, $122,500. The following list comprises the American losses in detail:

ALLAHABAD.—American Presbyterian Mission: Two large missionaries' bungalows plundered and burnt; Mr. GWIN'S Biblical library, worth £1,000, destroyed; church and English school injured; native chapel burnt; Mission press burnt, with paper, stock in hand, works in hand, and bookstore; presses broken, types turned into bullets, type-foundry plundered; two Christian villages burnt. Loss $65,000.

FUTTEHPORE.—American Presbyterian Mission: Missionary's bungalow, church, village and schools burnt and destroyed. Loss, $4,000.

BANDA.—American Presbyterian Mission: Schoolhouse and teacher's bungalow destroyed. Loss, $1,000.

FUTTEHGUR.—American Presbyterian Mission: Four missionaries' bungalows, three catechists' bungalows; girls and boys' boarding-schools, large Christian village, tent factory, with carpenter's shop, looms for weaving cloth and carpets, tent and store-house, all plundered, burnt, and utterly destroyed; church (one of the prettiest in Upper India) much injured. Loss, $20,000.

MYNPOORIE.—American Presbyterian Mission: Bungalow, church and school burnt. Loss, $2,000.

AGRA.—American Presbyterian Mission: Four bungalows plundered and burnt, including two schools and four English children; English church injured. Loss, $9,000.

LOODIANAH.—American Presbyterian Mission: two bungalows, English school, church, boarding-schools, press, with presses, type foundry, paper store, bookstore, all plundered, broken and burned Loss, $20,000.

JULLUNDER.—American Presbyterian Mission: bungalow and school destroyed. Loss $1,500.

BAREILLY.—American Episcopal Methodist: bungalow and very valuable library burned. Loss $2,500.

These examples of suffering are only a few out of thousands; but they come home to us and give us some idea of what the European and American residents in India must have endured at the hands of the mutinous Sepoys—blood-thirsty and relentless as their native tigers.

Rev. Mr. Kalloch's Resignation.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1857.

To the Tremont-street Baptist Church:

DEAR BRETHREN: I herewith announce to you my resignation of the pastorate of the Tremont-street Baptist Church. I give you an early notice, so that you will have ample time and a good opportunity to secure the services of my successor.

It is needless for me to assure you that nothing in the church or my relations to it leads me to this step. Seldom, I believe, has a pastorate been more pleasant, or the relations between pastor and people more harmonious; and never, I know, did a pastor leave with more agreeable remembrance of those with whom he has labored. In leaving you I leave a church as earnest, as faithful, as true to its pastor, as any church with which I have ever been acquainted. And I have the satisfaction of retiring with the consciousness that, so far as I know, not one unkind or disagreeable feeling exists between myself and any member of this church.

Motives of another kind—motives long and patiently, and I hope prayerfully, considered—lead me to this step. It would be useless in this communication for me to undertake an explanation of them to you, although at a proper time I shall be happy to explain them more fully to any who may wish to know.

I do not resign the pastorate of this church for the acceptance of another. It is a position which I shall not immediately assume again. I no not renounce my *profession*; but, for the present, I renounce the pastoral office, and devote a part of my energies to another calling.

I can call God to witness, that I entered upon my ministerial career honestly, and have pursued my work conscientiously. Its results are with Him before whom every action must pass in solemn review, and to whom we are personally accountable. To Him I can appeal for the rectitude of my designs, although I may err in the correctness of my conclusions. My position at the present time in the ministry, although eminently happy and prosperous in my own society, is not, from influences over which I have no control, easy, independent, or, in the widest sense, useful; and I as honestly retire from it, as I entered upon it. This conclusion is the matured deliberation of months of anxious thought, and is final.

Suffer here a word of counsel. You have now a united church; a secured house of worship; a comfortable income; a large, and, for the most part, in my opinion, consolidated congregation. Your condition, with God's blessing, contrasts widely and favorably, we shall all agree, with what it was when I assumed your pastoral care. Such then, is no position to yield; such is no time for discouragement. Your cause depends on no man. Man may fail, but God lives. The creature may fail, nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his.

I need not add that when I part from you I shall do it with grief, and that wherever in the future my lot may be cast, and in whatever different scenes of action I may engage, I shall always hold your kindness and fidelity in grateful remembrance.

Wishing you, as I believe you will have, continued prosperity, and commending you to God, and to the word of grace, which is able to build you up, and give you an inheritance among the sanctified, I am, your affectionate pastor,

I. S. KALLOCH.

Miscellaneous Items.

An attempt at murder and suicide occurred at Milan, Mich., on the 29th ult. G. L. Southwick, from Meadville, Penn., had been engaged to a young lady, Laura A. Evans, of the former place. A few days since he came to Milan, to endeavor to induce the young lady to marry him, which she refused to do. He left for home but only went as far as Dexter, when he returned again to Milan. Sunday morning he entered the young lady's room, and endeavored with a razor to cut her throat while she was in bed. She partly warded off the blow and escaped. Her screams arou-ed those in the house who rushed into the room, and found him under the bed endeavoring to cut his own throat. He was immediately taken into custody. Miss E. was severely, although not mortally injured.

On the 16th ult., three children of Joseph Brotte, a French Canadian, who recently settled upon new land in the town of Willow Creek, Michigan, went from their father's house into the woods, to search for winter-greens, and lost their way. They were in the forest two nights and one day, before they were traced and found. One of them was a boy of four, and the other two girls. They got into an old shanty in the woods, where the boy lay down exhausted and speechless, his sisters composing his limbs, supposing him to be dead. He was revived partially, but died soon after reaching home.

A sad accident occured at Weston, Mo., on the 26th ult. The boilers in one of Mr. ERASMUS PERRY'S saw mills exploded, causing a shock which was sensibly felt all over the city. When the crowd reached the scene, the body of Mr. PERRY was found horribly mangled lying under part of an engine; his negro boy was discovered with a part of the boiler fifty yards distant from the mill, with his heart lying on the ground; the engineer, a German, was badly scalded, and died in a few hours; and a negro belonging to the estate of PHINEAS SKINNER, and one to Mr. WOODS, of Clay County, were badly scalded.

A terrible tragedy occurred at Caseyville, Ky., on Friday night. A man by the name of Hall, who parted from his wife not long since, and who killed a man a few weeks ago in an encounter, met Dr. Taylor in the streets and shot him, and, as the Doctor fled, pursued him into a store, and there stabbed him twice in the breast, and finished the diabolical deed by cutting his throat and severing the jugular vein. Hall then escaped to his own house, barricaded the doors, armed himself, and defied the authorities to take him. The two terrible homicides attempted by Hall were prompted by jealousy.

A man named Peter McCaffrey, made an attempt to murder his wife and sister with a razor, in Baltimore, recently. He was intoxicated at the time, and had quarreled with his wife. In order to settle it, he attempted to kill her with his razor, and his sister, Jane McCourt, ran between them and caught the blow upon the left cheek, causing a gash two or three inches in length, and another about an inch and a-half long in the neck, nearly severing the carotid artery. His wife also received a wound upon the head.

Thomas Robinson committed suicide by taking arsenic, at Paterson, on Sunday week. He is supposed to have come from Belleville, and on visiting New-York on Thursday last, was beaten and robbed of his money.

The South Carolina Legislature has passed a suitable tribute to the memory of the late Senators Butler, Cheves and Hamilton.

The *Republic*, a journal for firemen, has been started in a neat way at Boston.

MURDER IN WHEELING, VA.—The vicinity o Wheeling appears now to be the resort of some desperate characters. It is but a short time since we recorded the circumstances of the murder of a girl near Sunfish, as we found it in the Wheeling papers. Another bloody deed was perpetrated in the same neighborhood on Tuesday evening last. At that time, as we learn from the *Intelligencer* of Saturday, the body of an old man named GEORGE MOORE was found in a field near his residence, on Fish Creek, horribly disfigured. The murderous instruments, an axe and a hatchet, were lying, blood-stained, by the side of the corpse. A man named ISAAC POWELL is charged with the commission of the shocking deed.

It appears that the old man was quite eccentric, living alone and devoting his whole care and attention to the raising of poultry. POWELL, who is an idle worthless creature, was probably robbing MOORE'S henroost, and being caught, killed the old man to prevent the exposure of the offence. POWELL has been arrested and lodged in jail at Moundsville, Va. He denies all knowledge of the murder. His statements, however, in regard to his whereabouts on that evening were made in a hesitating and contradictory manner. The feeling in the community, as well as the circumstantial evidence, is strongly against the accused. He is represented as a dissipated, worthless, idle fellow. He was known and feared in the community as a daring and desperate fellow, fully capable of perpetrating such a deed as the one with which he is charged.

THE PHILADELPHIA BOARD OF HEALTH SWINDLER.—An exculpatory card from ROBERT LINDSAY, one of the Philadelphia Board of Health, appears in the papers, to defend that gentleman's reputation from the charges of dishonesty lately preferred against the members of the Board generally. He distinctly denies that he has ever been in the habit of partaking of refreshments at the expense of the city, and adds:

"My connection with the Board placed me in a position of extreme embarrassment, not in reference to any doubt as to what was my duty, but from the difficulty of not being able to have all the business of the office brought before the Board, so that all the members should have an opportunity of examining and passing upon it. No report of the receipts by the Clerk of the Board has yet been made, to my knowledge."

HOUSES AND LOTS FOR SALE.

WESTERN LANDS FOR SALE, OR TRADE for improved City property.
800 acres in Iowa, a Post-office station, well wooded and watered, and in a thickly-settled neighborhood.
2,000 acres on the railroad near Chicago, Ill, in a well-settled region
1,200 acres in Stillwater District, Minnesota.
1,200 acres in Hot Springs District, Missouri.
S. COCKROFT, No. 13 Merchants' Exchange, Wall-st.

FOR SALE—A FOUR-STORY BRICK CORNER-store and dwelling, suitable for a grocery or liquor store, the most handsomely fitted up in the City; offered at a bargain; going to California; very little money required, or none if secured. Apply at the southwest corner of 2d-av. and 31st-st.

BIGGS & SOUTHWICK, No. 84 Nassau-st.

FOR EXCHANGE—A FOUR-STORY STONE-front house, near Madison-square. Price $17,000; mortgage $10,000. A house worth $4,000 to $6,000 in the City or neighborhood, will be taken in exchange. Address with particulars Box No. 1,540 Post-Office.

HOUSES TO LET.

COUNTRY SEAT TO LET—FURNISHED—Beautifully situated on Passaic River, at North Belleville, N. J.; communication with Wall-st. within an hour by railroad. There is a cottage containing 13 rooms, with stable, chicken-house, ice-house, &c., on a lawn of ten acres, on which are all varieties of fruit and forest trees. Apply at No. 335 5th-av.

TO LET—THE FIRST-CLASS FOUR-STORY brown-stone front house No. 44 West 16th st., between 5th and 6th avs. The house is entirely new, and contains all the modern improvements. For particulars, apply to F. C. LIGHTE, No. 421 Broome-st.

HOUSES & ROOMS WANTED.

WANTED—A WELL-FURNISHED HOUSE, BETWEEN 4th and 6th avs., from Jan 1 to May 1. Address, with description and terms, Box 388, Post-Office.

FARMS FOR SALE.

FARM AT PRIVATE SALE—THE SUBSCRIBER offers at private sale the farm whereon he now resides, situated on the road leading from Cross Roads to Rhoad Hall. The farm is within two miles of Dean's Pond station. He will dispose of the property on reasonable terms. The farm contains 86 acres, in a high state of cultivation, with a large two-story house and kitchen and barn and other out-buildings, all new; abundance of all kinds of fruit. South Brunswick township, Middlesex County, N. J. STEPHEN FORD.

FARM WANTED—IN PARTIAL EXCHANGE for Brooklyn property. Must be not over 40 miles from New York, situated on either the line of the Harlem or Hudson River Railroads, well stocked with fruit trees and of extent not exceeding forty acres. Address, by letter or in person, CHARLES F. BLAKE, No. 146 Chambers-st., New-York.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

A BANKING FIRM, WELL LOCATED IN Wall-st., wish to increase their capital by the addition of one or more special partners, who would invest not less than $50,000 each.
They believe the coming season to offer a very favorable opening for a first-class house in this business, and that with the acquaintances and connections they have formed, they could make it a very desirable investment for capitalists.
They are free from embarrassment, and will furnish the most perfectly satisfactory references.
Address BANKERS, *Times* Office.

A CHANCE FOR BUSINESS MEN.—STOCK for sale, and large basement store to let, of an old-established wooden-ware, house-furnishing and toy store, in one of the best business locations in the City. Rent low. Inquire at KELLOG'S, No. 381 Canal-st.

$100,000 WANTED IN EXCHANGE for a good class of Railroad securities, dry goods, clothing, carpets, furniture, &c. Address JOHNSON, Box No. 3,017 Post-Office.

PERSONAL.

HEIRS-AT-LAW AND NEXT OF KIN.—The subscriber having recently returned from England, is prepared to furnish reliable information in relation to next of kin, heirs at law, unclaimed dividends and Government securities; also, as to claimants to property whose names have been published for the last hundred years, and many names which have never been published. Apply between 12 and 2 o'clock at No. 71 Nassau-st., New-York; or address the subscriber, as above, or at Morrisania, Westchester County, N. Y.

CHAUNCEY SMITH.

TEACHERS.

GOVERNESS.—A FRENCH PROTESTANT LADY, is desirous of forming an engagement as governess, in a private family who resides in this City or its vicinity, to teach the English branches, with French and music, or as teacher in a young ladies' seminary. The best references given and required. Address FRENCH LADY, No. 11 West 26th-st., corner of Broadway.

GOVERNESS.—A YOUNG LADY, THOROUGHLY conversant with the English and French languages, having taught the latter several years in a French school, wishes immediately a situation as governess in a private family. Salary moderate—a comfortable home being the principal object. Address C. S., *Times* Office.

DANCING.

A. DODWORTH'S DANCING ACADEMIES,
No. 806 Broadway, New-York.
No. 137 Montague-place, Brooklyn.
Classes now open for the reception of pupils.
Weekly assemblies for ladies and gentlemen at both establishments for practice in the Lancers quadrille, German cotillion and all other dances.
For circulars, &c., apply at either Academy.

MR. CHARRUAUD'S DANCING SCHOOL, No. 54 East 13th-st. New Classes are forming, and pupils received on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, at 12 o'clock, noon, and 3½ o'clock, afternoons. Tuesday and Friday at 8 o'clock, evening, for gentlemen.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

No. 49 WALL-ST., AND No. 41 WILLIAM-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1857.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE THIS DAY formed a copartnership, under the name of MORSE & CO., for the transaction of a Banking Commission business, for the purchase and sale of stocks and securities, domestic and foreign exchange, and for the negotiation of commercial paper.

A. W. MORSE,
W. P. TALBOYS.

PRINTING BY STEAM.
COPPER-FACED TYPE.
STATIONERS' HALL, Nos. 174 and 176 Pearl-st., N. Y.,
J. A. H. HASBROUCK,
PRINTER, LITHOGRAPHER and STATIONER.
All kinds of PRINTING executed in the best style,
WITH COPPER-FACED TYPE, AT THE LOWEST RATES.

PROVISIONS FOR THE POOR, AT COST PRICES!
The subscriber has opened a depôt at No. 283 CANAL-ST.,
for the sale of the following articles to the laboring classes at actual cost prices, for cash only, viz.
FLOUR AND MEAL OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
BEANS,
PEAS,
RICE,
PEARL BARLEY,
TEA,
SUGAR,
COFFEE,
POTATOES,
DOMESTIC DRIED FRUITS, of all kinds,
and other kinds of provisions of the best quality.
A. M. COFFIN, No. 283 Canal-st.

MISSOURI STATE INTEREST.—THE COUpons due 1st of January next, on all Bonds of the State of Missouri, will be paid on presentation after that date, at the Bank of Commerce in New-York.
H. F. VAIL, Cashier.

A. U. GABAUDAN, NO. 47 MAIDEN-LANE, offers a choice selection of Fancy Goods, Toilet Articles, &c., of recent importations, at greatly reduced prices, for cash.

SUPERIOR LARD AND TALLOW OILS, very fine, for machinery and burning. Barrels 30 to 50 gallons. JOHN W. QUINCY, No. 98 William-st.

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—LA TRAVIATA.
THIS (Friday) EVENING, Dec 11, at 8.
NOTICE.—This morning, at 9 precisely, commences the sale of the $1 reserved seats, and of the remaining $1 50 seats.
First night of Verdi's favorite opera of
LA TRAVIATA,
which will be given in complete style, with military band, and entirely new and magnificent dresses, uniform with those used at Her Majesty's Theatre in London.
Mme. ANNA DE LA GRANGE
will resume her great *rôle* of Violetta, in which she created such a sensation last year.
Signor BIGNARDI,
the new and successful young tenor, will continue his debut in his favorite part of Alfred.
Signor ARDAVANI. Signor ROCCO.
Reserved seats $1 and $1 50, according to location, may be had at the Academy of Music, C. BREUSING'S, and SIBELL'S stationery store No. 20 Wall-st.
TO-MORROW. (Saturday,) German Opera.
First appearance of the great basso,
CARL FORMES,
In German Opera,
in connection with
Mme. ANNA DE LA GRANGE,
in Flotow's celebrated opera of
MARTHA,
with entirely new dresses.

LA TRAVIATA—THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.
NOTICE.—This morning, at 9 precisely commences the sale of the $1 and remaining $1 50 reserved seats.

VERDI'S TRAVIATA—THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.
NOTICE.—This morning, at 9 precisely commences the sale of the $1 and remaining $1 50 reserved seats.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—MARTHA.
TO-MORROW, (Saturday,) Dec. 12, at 8.
First appearance of the great basso,
CARL FORMES,
IN GERMAN OPERA.
in connection with
MADAME ANNA DE LA GRANGE.
SATURDAY, Dec. 12, at 8 o'clock,
first night of Flotow's celebrated opera of
MARTHA,
originally and expressly composed for
CARL FORMES.
The principal characters by
Madame DE LA GRANGE, Madame VON BERKEL,
Mr. PIKANESER Mr. LEHMANN,
CARL FORMES.
The Director begs to state that this celebrated work, which during the last ten years has been the leading opera in Germany, will be produced here from the composer's own manuscript score, as arranged for the opera in Paris, where it will be given for the first time at the end of this month. As, in consequence of further arrangements,
NO OTHER GERMAN OPERA
can be given this season, the Director trusts that the public will avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing
CARL FORMES
in an opera which has been originally composed for him in Vienna, and in which his success has been as extraordinary as in "Robert le Diable" or "Don Giovanni."
Reserved seats $1 and $1 50, according to location, may be had at the Academy of Music, C. BREUSING'S and SIBELL'S stationery store, No. 20 Wall-st.
On Friday will be sold only the $1 50 seats.
On Saturday the $1 and remaining $1 50 seats.
Admission tickets $1, family circle 50 cents, and amphitheatre 25 cents, can be procured only at the door.

NIBLO'S GARDEN
FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 11,
GREAT COMIC NIGHT. THREE COMIC PIECES.
GABRIEL IN TWO COMIC CHARACTERS.
ANTOINE AND JEROME RAVEL.
Comic Pantomime—THE MILLINERS.
Comic Pantomime—ITALIAN BRIGANDS.
Comic Pantomime—MEDINA.
Doors open at 6½; to commence at 7½ o'clock
Tickets 50 cents; Upper Boxes 25 cents; Children 25 cents.
SATURDAY, at 2 o'clock, Grand Juvenile afternoon performance. NICODEMUS. Evolutions on the TIGHT ROPE, and JOCKO, the Ape.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE
No. 624 Broadway, above Houston-st.
The EXTRAORDINARY SUCCESS of the SEA OF ICE.
FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 11, 1857,
(and every evening during the week,)
THE SEA OF ICE; Or, A MOTHER'S PRAYER.
Ozarita, the Wild Flower of Mexico.....Miss Laura Keene
Carlos, an adventurer.....Geo. Jordan
Barabas, a Sailor.....Mr. Jefferson
Raoul de Lascours, Captain of the Urania.....Mr. Wheatleigh
BALCONY CHAIRS only 50 cents each, can be secured for any night during the week, without extra charge.
Seats in the Family Circle (equal to any in the Theatre in point of comfort and view of the stage) only TWENTY-FIVE CENTS each.
Doors open at 6½; to commence at 7½ precisely.

BURTON'S NEW THEATRE
FRIDAY—The last time positively of
DOMBEY AND SON,
with the great cast of first-class talent, unequaled on the stage, and played to a crowded house last Tuesday, with great applause.
Brogham in his original parts, Jack Bunsby and Joe Bagstock. Burton in his original part of Captain Cuttle. Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. W. H. Smith, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Setchell, &c., and Mr. Rogers in his new farce of CRINOLINE.
VANITY FAIR, last time, to-morrow night.

BOWERY THEATRE.
Lessee and Proprietor.....Mr. E. Eddy
Boxes and Parquette, 25 cents. | Pit.....12 cents.
FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 11.
The performance to commence with
SANDS, NATHANS & CO'S
Great Triple Troupe of American, French and German Artists.
To conclude with the Pantomime of
JOCKO, THE BRAZILIAN APE.

PURDY'S NATIONAL THEATRE.
Chatham street, near Roosevelt.
FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 11.
The entertainment will commence with the Drama of
THE REVOLT IN INDIA; Or, THE FALL OF DELHI.
To be followed with
KAMEL THE SCOUT.
To conclude with the farce of the
THREE SHAWS!
Doors open at 6½ o'clock. Curtain will rise at 7 o'clock.

BROADWAY THEATRE—GRAND REOPENING.—The manager has to announce that the requisite alterations in the stage department having been completed, the house will be opened on MONDAY, Dec. 14, for equestrian hippodramatic and zoological performances. The manager has engaged a full equestrian company, which includes many celebrated artists in every department and have also secured the services of VAN AMBURGH, the world-renowned King of Beasts, who will present his splendid collection of trained animals. It is confidently expected that this exhibition will supply a void long felt in this City by presenting a select drawing-room entertainment, combining all the interesting features of the Hippodrome, the Hippodramatic, the Jardin des Plantes of Paris and the famous Astley's Amphitheatre of London, and blending harmless amusement with instruction in some of the most beautiful departments of the natural sciences. Particulars in future advertisements.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM.—HA! HA! HA! COME all ye who are heavily grief-laden. Come and witness the new pill-disturbing, mirth provoking, dyspepsia-curing, and blue-devil-annihilating production, to be repeated THIS EVENING, at 7½ o'clock, a ready enjoyed by enthusiastic thousands, and entitled LAUGH AND GROW FAT; or, THE QUACK MARTYR. Previous to which, THE CROSS OF GOLD. Theresa, Mrs. Chas. Howard. THIS AFTERNOON at 3 o'clock, THE TRUTHS A LIE, and CATCHING AN HEIRESS. The beautiful Aquaria, the Happy Family, Living Serpent, &c., to be seen as usual. Admittance 25 cents; children under 10 cts.

EMPIRE HALL, NO. 598 BROADWAY.
The gigantic moving diorama of
DR. KANE'S ARCTIC VOYAGES,
With a thrilling description of the sufferings endured by him and his daring followers, by
CHARLES GAYLER, Esq.
The popular author and dramatist,
EVERY EVENING at 8 o'clock and WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY AFTERNOONS at 3 o'clock.
Admission 25 cents; children half price.

POWERS' GREEK SLAVE, MARTYRDOM OF HUSS,
Diana and her Nymphs, are a few among the hundred wonderful works of art on exhibition at the Dusseldorf Gallery—day and evening—No 548 Broadway.

Merchants' and Clerks' Library Association.
THE PICTURE ON THE WALL.
An unpublished tale in verse, will be recited by
THE AUTHOR,
CHARLES MACKAY, LL. D.,
On MONDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock,
At Mozart Hall, No 663 Broadway.
Tickets 50 cents, for sale at the principal bookstores and at the door.

MRS. KEMBLE'S READINGS.—MRS. FRANCES ANNE KEMBLE will read Shakespeare's play of Henry VIII. on SATURDAY EVENING, Dec. 10, in the Lecture Room of the University Medical College (in 14th-st., next the Academy of Music,) beginning at 8 o'clock. On MONDAY, Dec. 14, at 2 o'clock P. M., she will read Othello.
The evening readings of the Course will be on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Tickets, $1 for each reading, may be had at Messrs. Appleton's, Francis', Crowen's and Christern's Bookstores, and at the Clarendon, Everett, Union St. Denis, New York, Metropolitan and St. Nicholas Hotels, and the Astor House; also, from C. W. Polman, Janitor of the College.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.—THE TWENTY-NINTH Annual Ball of the New-York Fire Department, in behalf of the widow and orphan fund, will take place at the Academy of Music, corner 14th-st. and Irving-place, on MONDAY EVENING, Jan. 25, 1858. Tickets may be procured of the managers or of the officers.
HENRY A. BURR, President, No. 101 Cliff-st.
PETER B. TITUS, Treasurer, No. 38 Market-st.
JAMES F. WENMAN, Sec'y., No. 140 Pearl st.

THE EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY MODERN ARTISTS OF THE FRENCH SCHOOL.—At the old ART UNION ROOMS, No. 497 Broadway, will remain open until further notice, from 9 A. M to 5 P. M. and from 7 to 10 evening. The Gallery is well lighted and warmed. B. FRODSHAM, Secretary.

GREAT SHOW OF FAT CATTLE IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.—The American Institute will hold an exhibition of stall and grass-fed cattle, calves, sheep, swine, pork and dressed poultry of all kinds, in the Crystal Palace, on the 15th 16th and 17th days of December, instant. Liberal premiums will be awarded. Farmers, stock breeders and others, wishing to exhibit, will please make application to WM. B. LEONARD, the Agent of the Institute, at the Crystal Palace, or THOS. F. DEVOE, the Chairman of the Committee, Nos. 7 and 8 Jefferson Market.
The cattle and poultry for exhibition will be received at the 40th-st entrance to the Palace on Saturday, Dec. 12, and Monday, Dec. 14.

STRANGERS SHOULD NOT FAIL TO SEE
The great Dusseldorf Gallery of Paintings, Powers' Greek Slave, the Adoration, the Fairies, are each worth the price of admission. Open day and evening—No. 548 Broadway.

GALLERY OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES, No. 659 Broadway.—Dr. ABBOTT'S wonderful collection has a character above all other exhibitions in America, and is pronounced by travelers to be superior to any museum in the world. Open day and evening. Admission 25 cents.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

WE PUBLISH, TO-DAY:
PARTON'S LIFE OF BURR.
LIFE AND TIMES OF AARON BURR.
BY J. PARTON.
One volume, 700 pages, crown octavo. Illustrated by engravings on steel and wood.
Price $1 75.
"Parton's Life of Burr" is in every respect an original and peculiar work, of absorbing interest, and possessing claims to the attention of Americans. The author claims that in this volume "The story of Aaron Burr's strange eventful life is told for the first time, and is derived in great part from the personal reminiscences of his surviving friends, connections and acquaintances."
The peculiar romantic and eventful life of Aaron Burr has afforded material for one of the most interesting and fascinating biographies ever written, while incidentally to the subject the rise and progress to power of the great Democratic Party of the United States is fully recorded.
The volume is printed on superfine paper, and illustrated with portraits, on steel, of Burr and his daughter Theodosia, and several wood engravings.
Price $1 75.
ALSO READY TO-DAY:
COUSIN WILLIAM. By THEODORE HOOK. One vol., 12mo. Price $1.
GEWAISE SKINNER. By THEODORE HOOK. One vol., 12mo. Price $1.
Being volumes 4 and 5 of "Masons' Library of Standard Tales;" Harriet and Sophia Lee's "Canterbury Tales," price $2 75 forming the first three volumes.
In active preparation, and to be issued the week before Christmas, the volume for 1858 of the
NEW-YORK ALMANAC AND YEARLY RECORD FOR 1858.
32mo, cloth. Price 25 cents.
MASON BROTHERS,
Nos. 108 and 110 Duane-st., New-York.

COMPETITION DEFIED.
THE ONLY LADY'S BOOK IN AMERICA—THE QUEEN OF THE MONTHLIES.
GODEY FOR JANUARY, 1858,
SPLENDID EMBELLISHMENTS AND ABLE AUTHORS.
"Family Prayer," a superb line engraving; "Home and Abroad," a title on steel; "Fashions in Difficulties," "Fashions in Comfort"—Two beautifully-colored plates. THE AMERICAN CUSHION, printed in gold and colors.
TWELVE PAGES OF EMBROIDERY, &c., printed in blue.
MARION HARLAND, author of "Alone" and "Hidden Path," has a story in this number. Mrs. HAVEN commences "Margaret's Home" in this number. The author of "The Tallow Family in America" begins one of her quaint articles in January number.
There are in the January number 46 engravings especially for ladies, 60 contributions, and in all 100 pages.
Look at the January number at any of the periodical stores.

WAR IN INDIA.—FIFTY MEN WANTED TO circulate a new Map of the Seat of War in India. The Map is 26x33 inches, richly illustrated embracing portraits of some of the actors in the thrilling events of that fearful contest of races. Retail price twenty-five cents. Apply at H. PHELPS' Map Establishment, No. 18 Beekman-st. One copy will be sent to any address on receipt of ten postage stamps pre-paid.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

PREPARE FOR THE HOLIDAYS,
AND
SECURE AN EARLY SELECTION
FROM THE
Large and Fashionable Stock of
WATCHES, JEWELRY,
SILVER WARE AND FANCY GOODS,
now selling
CHEAP FOR CASH.
ROBERT RAIT & CO.,
No. 361 Broadway, cor. of Warren-st.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
FURS! FURS!
THE
HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY,
Nos. 75 and 77 Maiden-lane,
offer at retail by
MARR J. KING,
the immense stock of
LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S
FANCY FURS,
valued at over
$100,000,
at a discount of
FORTY PER CENT.
from wholesale prices.
Please remember that this is the only Hudson's Bay Company's warehouse in the City.
Nos. 75 and 77 Maiden-lane.

TO MEET THE CRISIS.
RICH HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
HENRY LEVY,
No. 49 MAIDEN-LANE,
Offers at RETAIL, His immense stock of
USEFUL, ARTISTIC and ORNAMENTAL
FANCY GOODS,
imported for the coming holidays, and to be sold at an enormous reduction from regular prices, FOR CASH.

PETER COOPER'S
REFINED SHEET AND SHRED ISINGLASS,
A prime article, and very extensively used for
BLANC-MANGE, TABLE JELLIES, &c.
THE SHRED, WITH DIRECTIONS FOR USING, IS PUT UP IN SMALL PACKAGES.
And is sold by all the principal Grocers and Druggists in the City and country.
PETER COOPER,
No. 17 Burling-slip, New York.

TREMENDOUS SACRIFICE.
FANCY ARTICLES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!
PORTE-MONNAIES, BAGS, RETICULES, PERFUMERY, &c., in every variety, at WHOLESALE ONLY, by
D. M. KNIGHT & CO., No. 26 Vesey-st.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES OF PIANOS!
SOEBELER & SCHMIDT, Piano-forte Manufacturers,
No. 423 Broome-st., near Broadway,
A DISCOUNT OF TWENTY PER CENT.
from ordinary rates for Cash. Parties about purchasing will find it to their advantage to call and examine our Pianos before buying elsewhere.

GOLD MEDAL PIANO-FORTES.—THE highest premium awarded by the American Institute in 1855 1856 and 1857! The Gold Medal Premium has this year been awarded to the Pianos of SCHUETZE & LUDOLFF, No. 452 Broome-st., New-York, over those sent from Boston, Albany and Troy, as well as many others from this City. For strength and sweetness combined, the pianos of these gentlemen have never been surpassed. They are full, soft and rich, yet forcible, and easy to the touch. In external appearance, too, they are second to none, being highly finished, and elegant in form. In short, they are thoroughly excellent, and the public has already seconded the decision of the judges.
SCHUETZE & LUDOLFF, No. 452 Broome st.

STEINWAY & SONS, MANUFACTURERS No. 84 Walker-st., near Broadway, have again been awarded the first premium—a gold medal—for the best grand pianos, at the Maryland Institute, Baltimore; and while they thus endeavor to manufacture a piano-forte that will always be No. 1 wherever it goes, they will sell them at reduced prices to suit the times. A written warrantee given for three years.

GREAT IMPROVEMENT IN PIANO-FORTES.—Messrs. LIGHTE, NEWTON & BRADBURYS, No. 429 Broome st., respectfully invite attention to their Piano-fortes, constructed with the patent arch wrest plank, which is undoubtedly the most substantial improvement ever introduced into this instrument.

CHICKERING & SON'S PIANO-FORTES—Including the various styles manufactured by this celebrated establishment; also, a large variety of second-hand Pianos, for sale at very reduced prices, at No. 508 Broadway. H. WARREN.

A GREAT BARGAIN FOR CASH.—A FAMily in want of money will sell their piano; splendid rosewood, 7-octave, round corners, beautifully ornamented; best City makers. Will be sold for half cost, together with stool and music. Apply at No. 156 1st-av., between 9th and 10th sts.

A MAGNIFICENT NEW ROSEWOOD PIANO-FORTE of unsurpassed tone, warranted will be sold at an immense deduction for cash. A second-hand piano taken in exchange. Call at No. 155 West Broadway, near Canal.

RAVEN, BACON & CO., (SUCCESSORS TO Bacon & Raven,) piano-forte manufacturers ware-room No. 135 Grand-st., near Broadway, where a full assortment of instruments may be found, exclusively of our own manufacture, warranted in every respect.

HAINES BROTHERS' CELEBRATED PIANOS new and second-hand, to let or for sale, on installments, at their manufactory, Nos. 330, 332 and 334 3d-av., corner of 21-st., New-York. by J. M. PELTON

GREAT CHANCE.—ELEGANT 7-OCTAVE ROSEwood, grand diagonal piano, cost $500, made by one of the best makers, and warranted; been used a few months and in perfect order. Will be sold for $300. Can be seen No. 141 9th-st.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GIFTS, GIFTS, GIFTS.
GIFTS DOUBLE THE VALUE OF FORMER PRESENTS EVERY DAY,
AT
EVANS & CO.'S
GREAT ORIGINAL GIFT BOOKSTORE,
No. 677 Broadway.
SECURE YOUR HOLIDAY GIFTS WITHOUT COST.
With every book sold the purchaser receives one of the following
LIST OF PRESENTS.
Gold and silver watches; large double-case miniature lockets; gold, stone, onyx, turquoise, lava, mosaic, jet, florentine and plain gold brooches; bracelets, armlets, Bosom pins, gold neck chains, sets of studs, and sleeve buttons, in variety; gold pens and pencils, silver-pencils, gold pens, gents' heavy gold rings, ladies' finger rings, &c.
Having reduced our rates of small presents, we are enabled to promise satisfaction in every instance.
Orders from the country executed with dispatch.
Catalogues sent free to any address upon application.
Address EVANS & CO.,
Principal Wholesale and retail store, No. 677 Broadway,
D. W. EVANS, La Farge Buildings.
J. H. FRASERS.

A. H. HASBROUCK, STATIONER'S Hall, Nos. 174 and 176 Pearl-st., New-York, Importer and Manufacturer, offers for sale, at low cash prices, every variety of account books, papers, fancy and staple stationery, writing papers, notes, drafts, money and shipping receipts, inkstands, memorandum and time books, pens, pencils, sistes, penknives, chess and backgammon boards, &c., and all articles usually kept by the trade. JOB PRINTING and LITHOGRAPHY executed at low rates; cards, circulars, &c. Country merchants invited to call.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A PROTESTANT young man as waiter in a private family; he understands his business thoroughly, no objection to act as coachman and waiter, or would take a place in a first-class hotel or boarding house in city or country. Can refer to last employer in this City, where character and competency will be fully explained. Apply at No. 271 Bowery, for three days, or address WAITER, stating where an interview is required.

WANTED—BY A MOST RESPECTABLE AND economical middle-aged woman, with the best testimonials, a situation; is a good plain cook, makes and bakes good bread, an excellent washer and ironer; is competent and willing to do all she can to please her employer. Will accept of moderate wages. No objection to go in the country. Apply to J. S. MORGAN, No. 3 Myrtle-av., Brooklyn.

WANTED—SITUATIONS FOR TWO MOST EXcellent girls, one to cook, wash

AUCTION SALES.

RICHARDS KINGSLAND, Auctioneer.

BY RICHARDS KINGSLAND & CO.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16,

And every day (Sundays and Christmas excepted) until Dec. 31,

At 10 o'clock A. M., and 7½ P. M., daily, at their new [illegible] No. 364 Broadway, opposite Taylor's Saloon, [illegible] holiday sales of superb Paris fancy goods, Chi[illegible]s, silver and China ware, consisting in part of [illegible] bronze, marble and gilt clocks, superb French [illegible]nner and tea sets, elegant Russian statuettes and [illegible], superb bronzes, Sevres and French China vases, [illegible]n glassware in great variety, papier mache desks, [illegible]s, &c.; solid sterling silver ware, plated ware, [illegible] work boxes, fancy boxes, cigar holders and fan[illegible] of every description.

Parties wishing to purchase for Christmas and New Year's presents, would do well to call and examine this [illegible], among which will be found elegant diamond [illegible]s, bracelets, ear-rings, studs, sleeve buttons, &c., [illegible] the most magnificent and superb [illegible] of fancy goods ever offered at auction in New-[illegible]. The sale is positive and peremptory, and those [illegible] to purchase elegant goods for holiday presents, [illegible], would do well to call and examine this ex[illegible] and beautiful collection.

The rooms will be thrown open to the public for exhibition of goods on WEDNESDAY, 16th inst., at 9 o'clock.

RICHARDS KINGSLAND, Auctioneer.

BY RICHARDS KINGSLAND & CO.

GENERAL AUCTION AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

Salesroom No. 364 Broadway, opposite Taylor's Saloon.

FRIDAY, Dec. 11,

At 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M., at their new salesroom, No. 364 Broadway, opposite Taylor's Saloon,

The balance of their elegant and well-assorted stock of superb mirrors, oil and pastile paintings, engravings, consisting of fine, side-wall, mantel and oval mirrors, of all sizes, in gilt, rosewood, oak and black walnut; fine engravings in every variety of frames; oil and [illegible] paintings in richly ornamented frames, all of which will be sold without reserve.

This sale offers great inducements to those about purchasing, as it comprises every variety and style of goods in the line of business, and being manufactured by themselves, they have no hesitation in recommending them as [illegible] to anything of the kind ever offered to the public at private or public sale.

[illegible] will be put up in any part of the City, if desired, on a trifling charge.

HENRY H. LEEDS & Co., Auctioneers—Office No. 23 Nassau-st.

WILL SELL AT AUCTION, ON THURSDAY and FRIDAY, Dec 10 and 11, at 11 o'clock each day, at the gallery over the salesroom No 23 Nassau-st.

ON THURSDAY, Dec. 10, and FRIDAY, Dec. 11, at 11 o'clock each day, in our gallery, No. 23 Nassau-st, A Splendid COLLECTION OF OIL-PAINTINGS—Just received per [illegible], comprising about 200 fine pictures of the French, Flemish and Italian schools. Among them will be found the best works of Everdinger, Houdekoeter, [illegible], Wouvermans, Van Erp, Williams, Polemberg, Van Bomburgh, copies of Rubens and Rembrandt, Benstracter Snyder, Fanton, Watlean, Destouches, Ostade, Hookhoven, Carnder Jardin, De Vos, Smelts, Dillens, Carpenter, and many other celebrated artists. This beautiful collection will be on exhibition in the gallery three days previous to the sale, and is to be closed without reserve.

H. WILSON, Auctioneer.

ELEGANT AND FASHIONABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.—Solid rosewood parlor suite, works of art, &c.—H. WILSON, Auctioneer, will sell, THIS DAY, Dec. 11, at 10½ o'clock, the entire costly Parisian-made household furniture at the residence No. 51 West 16th-st., near 6th-av. The parlor furniture, in particular, is of the most expensive description, having cost upwards of [illegible] and may be fully relied on for durability. It consists of a magnificent rosewood 7-octave piano-forte, inlaid in Cupids of real pearl and solid pearl [illegible] by connoisseurs as being one of the best [illegible] ever made; three solid and richly-carved parlor suites, covered in superb India satin; [illegible] centre tables, ladies' rosewood work-table, inlaid with satinwood; superbly-carved rosewood [illegible], with French plate-glass doors and backs; [illegible] and easy chairs in rich French satin and brocade; [illegible] mirror and stands, heavy Fre ch plate mantel and [illegible] satin, brocade and lace window curtains, [illegible] and ormolu clock, magnificent China [illegible] other valuable parlor ornaments; medallion, [illegible] Brussels carpets. Dining-room and chamber [illegible] solid and richly-polished extension dining [illegible], richly-carved dining-room suite, rich China [illegible], rich cut glass ware, silver and [illegible] of the best description, silver cake baskets, [illegible] tea urn, &c.; mahogany sofas, cushioned [illegible], superbly-carved rosewood and mahogany [illegible], bureaus, washstands, China toilet sets, twenty pure hair mattresses, beds and bedding, ingrain carpets, stair carpets, bedroom mirrors, clocks, tables, oil-cloths, rosewood hall-stand, together with all the basement furniture, &c., with which the sale will commence. The auctioneer calls the special attention of housekeepers, hotel keepers and others to this sale, as every article will positively be sold without regard to cost. Parties wishing to purchase a magnificent residence can inspect the same on the day of sale. The auctioneer will also [illegible] first-class sales of household furniture at the residences of families breaking up, on reasonable terms.

DANIEL S. HOUGH, Auctioneer, Office No. 78 Beekman-st.

CALLS PARTICULAR ATTENTION OF PERSONS in want of really first class HOUSEHOLD GOODS to his sale at auction on FRIDAY, (this day,) Dec. 11, of all the rich and costly goods contained in the private residence, No. 248 West-23d-st., near 9th-av. All the goods were made for the present owner, have been but little used, and are in fine condition. Sale positive. No postponement on any account. Deposits required of bidders. In the basement are suits of walnut chamber furniture complete, together with all the kitchen utensils, and elegant China dinner and tea-sets, ivory gallery, silver ware, cut-glass, &c., belonging to the [illegible].

In the parlors are velvet carpets and rugs and three rosewood parlor suites, centre and side tables, corner and wall brackets, lace window drapery, pier glasses, China vases, bronze figures, clocks, ornaments, paintings, engravings, lady's secretary, work tables, easy chairs, bookcases, gas fixtures, one rosewood 7-octave piano, stool and cover, &c.

In the chambers are a fine assortment of carved rosewood and mahogany bedsteads, bureaus, stands, couches, chairs, carpets, cribs, sofas, 10 fine curled hair mattresses, blankets, beds and bedding, and a fine variety of desirable goods, too numerous to mention. Descriptive catalogue on the morning of sale. Sale commences at 10½ A. M. precisely.

WM. IRVING, Auctioneer.

GREAT HOLIDAY AUCTION SALE OF superb Paris, Chinese and Japanese fancy goods, fine table cutlery, glass and China ware, silver ware, &c. Also a splendid assortment of ladies', gentlemen's and children's furs, by IRVING & WATKINS, on MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY and FRIDAY, Dec. 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, at the Chinese Assembly Rooms, No. 685 Broadway. All the goods are of the most costly description and recent importation. This sale affords an excellent opportunity for every one to purchase beautiful holiday presents at very low prices, as the sale is to be positive and peremptory. The rooms will be thrown open to the public for exhibition on Monday morning at 9 o'clock. The sale of the furs commences each morning at 10½ o'clock. The fancy goods in the evening at precisely 7½ o'clock.

HENRY B. LEEDS & Co., Auctioneers, Office 23 Nassau-st.,

WILL SELL, AT AUCTION, ON FRIDAY, Dec. 14, at 10½ o'clock, at the salesroom No. 23 Nassau-st.:

Great sale of superb furs, sleigh robes, &c., comprising the richest and most varied assortment offered at auction this year. Among them will be found several superb Hudson Bay sable mantelets, capes, muffs and cuffs, ranging in cost from $100 to $500; mink sets, from $50 to $250; stone marten, genuine fitch, elegant French sable sets, [illegible] marten, &c.; Siberian and Russian squirrel do.; together with a choice and fine lot gents' beaver, otter and seal mufflers, and gloves and caps.

The attention of parties about purchasing is particularly requested to this sale, as it is unquestionably the finest stock offered this year, and every article is warranted as described. Deposits required from all persons unknown to the auctioneers.

E. SCHENCK, Auctioneer.

AUCTION NOTICE.—CONTINUATION OF ASSIGNEE'S SALE OF TOYS, FANCY GOODS, &c., FOR CASH.—The subscriber will offer, on SATURDAY, Dec. 12, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at No. 33 Maiden-lane, (up stairs,) New-York, a large and attractive assortment of Toys, Fancy Goods, &c., at public auction, being part of an extensive stock imported by Jolly & Tiers. This sale offers great inducements to City and country dealers about selecting their Holiday stock, as it includes a complete variety. N. B.—The particular attention of the trade is requested.

EDWARD HEN, Assignee of Jolley & Tiers.
OSCAR JOLLEY & CO.
WM. M. TIERS & CO.

Goods at private sale, Nos. 43 Maiden-lane and 31 Cortlandt-st., (up stairs.)

SIMSON DRAPER, Auctioneer.

BY SIMSON DRAPER.—OFFICE NO. 46 PINE-st., corner of William-st.—Regular Auction sales at the Merchants' Exchange EVERY DAY. Stocks and Bonds bought and sold at private sale; also, at the Board of Brokers. To avoid fictitious quotations, and facilitate the desire to make bona fide sales, Mr. DRAPER has established at the Merchants' Exchange, at 12½ o'clock P. M., each day, and receive for sale at public auction such certificates of stocks, bonds, &c., as shall be presented for that purpose, in addition to his advertised list. SALE THIS DAY at 12½ o'clock at the Merchants' Exchange. For particulars see yesterday's papers.

HENRY B. HERTS, Jr., Auctioneer.

WILL SELL, ON FRIDAY, DEC. 11, AT 10½ o'clock at the salesroom No. 5½ Pine st., by order of the assignees, the entire balance of stock of groceries, wines, &c., comprising choice green and black teas, white and brown sugars, syrups, sweet oil, sperm candles, soap, Scotch ale, London porter, champagne, old brandy, gin, cordials, French and English mustard, &c.; also, a large lot of genuine Havana cigars, tobacco, &c., &c. Terms cash. By order of the assignees.

P. C. BULKLEY, Auctioneer,

WILL SELL, BY ORDER OF G. B. LENT, Assignee, on FRIDAY, Dec. 11, at 10 o'clock, at Schenck's machinery depot, No. 163 Greenwich-st., New-York, all the machinery, stock in trade and property, late of A. L. ACKERMAN, now in said store, consisting of steam engines, Woodworth planers, iron planing machines, lathes, boring machines, belting, &c. Terms cash, in bankable money.

VALUABLE GOLD MINE FOR SALE IN VIRGINIA.—In obedience to a decree of the Circuit Court of Buckingham County, Virginia, in two cases of Charles Sacory vs. Wissmann and others, and Wissmann vs. Buckingham Coal Company and others, I will offer for sale at public auction in front of Buckingham Court House, on THURSDAY, Dec. 24, 1857, a tract of land in the said County containing 300 acres, known as the Buckingham Mine, on which there is a gold mine which has been worked on a large scale and regarded as one of the finest in this gold section. It is about six miles from the Canal House, and upon it there are extensive buildings and a large steam engine, and a tunnel has recently been completed at great expense, which is said to add greatly to the value. The terms of sale will be cash as to so much as will be necessary to pay the expenses of the sale and the taxes on the property, and for the balance on a credit of 1, 2 and 3 years, equal installments, the purchaser being required to give bonds with good security, and the title retained as further security.

JOHN W. HASKINS, Commissioner.

AUCTION SALES.

L. M. HOFFMAN, Auctioneer.

SCRANTON COAL

AT AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, 16th day of December instant.

POSITIVE SALE OF

15,000 TONS OF SCRANTON COAL,

For account of whom it may concern.

L. M. HOFFMAN & CO.

Will sell at their store, No. 111 Pearl-st., Hanover-square, On WEDNESDAY, 16th inst.,

At 12 o'clock M.,

15,000 TONS OF SCRANTON COAL,

Consisting of

LUMP, STEAMBOAT LUMP, LARGE EGG, SMALL EGG, STOVE, CHESTNUT AND SCREENINGS.

Deliverable on board of vessels at the depôt of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, at Elizabethport, N. J., and to be taken prior to the 16th of January, 1858. Terms cash, and conditions—$1 per ton to be paid to the auctioneers at the time of sale, and the residue on the delivery of their order for the coal. The money will be deposited in the New-York Life Insurance and Trust Company, for twenty days from the date of sale, that purchasers may have the opportunity of receiving the coal, which will be careful y weighed by a competent weigher. Purchasers will see that they get correct weight, as no deduction will be made after delivery.

The coal will be put up in lots of 50 tons, with a privilege.

N. B.—Barges can be readily had to deliver the coal in this City, Brooklyn, Williamsburg and Jersey City, at 40 cents per ton.

ALBERT H. NICOLAY, Auctioneer—Office No. 4 Broad-st.

REGULAR DAILY SALE OF STOCKS AND BONDS.—ALBERT H. NICOLAY will sell, THIS DAY, (Friday,) at 12½ o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange:

$5,000 Northern Indiana Railroad 1st Mortgage (Goshen) Bonds.
$2,000 Sandusky, Mansfield and Newark Railroad 1st Mortgage Bonds.
$3,000 Watertown and Madison Railroad 1st Mortgage Bonds.
$4,000 Cleveland, Painesville, and Ashtabula Railroad 7 per cent. Bonds.
$5,000 Bellville and Illinoistown Railroad 1st Mortgage Bonds.
$4,000 Milwaukee and Horicon Railroad 1st Mortgage 8 per cent. Bonds.
$3,000 Terre Haute and Alton Railroad 10 per cent Bonds.
$3,000 Terre Haute and Alton Railroad 1st Mortgage 7 per cent Bonds.
$500 Commercial Mutual Ins. Scrip of 1857.
$500 Sun Mutual Ins Scrip of 1856.
100 shares Fox and Wisconsin Improvement Co. $100 each.
10 shares Bank of Commerce ..... $100 each.
15 shares Arctic Fire Ins. Co ..... $50 each.
40 shares Putgers Fire Ins. Co ..... $25 each.
5 shares Gebhard Fire Ins. Co ..... $100 each.
15 shares Firemen's Insurance Company ..... $17 each.

Next regular sale TO-MORROW (Saturday.) Regular auction sales of Stocks, Bonds, Notes and other securities every day, at 12½ o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange. Stocks and Bonds bought and sold at private sale, and at the Board of Brokers, on commission. Interest allowed on Deposits. Loans negotiated, and Dividends collected. A large variety of Securities constantly on hand at private sale.

ALBERT H. NICOLAY,
Stock Auctioneer and Banker.

EDWARD H. LUDLOW, Auctioneer.

STOCKS, BONDS, &c., AT AUCTION.—E. H. LUDLOW & CO. will sell at auction, THIS DAY, (Friday,) Dec. 11, 1857, at 1 o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange:

$3,000 Terre Haute and Alton, 1st mortgage, 7 per cent, Bonds.
$2,000 Cleveland and Toledo, income convertible, 7 per cent. Bonds.
10 shares Importers' and Traders' Bank ..... $100 each.
12 shares Watertown and Rome Railroad Co ..... 100 each.

For parties wishing to dispose of securities this sales day will please send them in before the hour of sale. Regular sales days—TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS. Special sales any day required.

EZRA LUDLOW, Jr. & Co., Auctioneer.

WILL SELL, THIS DAY, AT THE MERCHANTS' Exchange, at 12½ o'clock, for account of whom it may concern:

$3,000 Williamsport and Elmira Railroad Co., 1st m. 7 per cent. Bonds, due 1873.
$3,000 Memphis City 6 per cent. Bonds, interest 18th July and January.
$8,000 Cleveland and Pittsburg 2d m. 7 per cent Bonds.
$4,000 Wheeling City 6 per cent. Bonds, due 1773.
$5,000 Ohio County (Va.) 6 per cent. Bonds.
40 shares Norwich and Worcester Railroad ..... $100 each
15 shares Indemnity Fire Ins. Co ..... $100 each
33 shares North Western Fire Ins. Co ..... $100 each

HENRY H. LEEDS & Co., Auctioneers, office 23 Nassau-st.,

WILL SELL AT AUCTION ON SATURDAY, Dec. 12, at 10½ o'clock, at the salesroom, No. 23 Nassau-st., genteel household furniture—removed for convenience of sale—consisting of Brussel's and ingrain carpets, rosewood suites, covered in green plush; elegant oak suite, covered in green reps; one library suite, covered in leather; elegant gilt frame pier mirrors; mahogany rockers, covered in hair-cloth; mahogany lounges, covered in brocatelle; gilt cornices; muslin and lace curtains; mahogany marble top, side, pier and centre tables; mahogany French bedsteads; mahogany marble-top washstands; black walnut and mahogany night cabinets and commodes; hair mattrasses, straw do., and paliasses, pillows, oil-cloth, matting, &c. Also, an assortment of china, glass, crockery and kitchen ware, with which the sale will commence; also, four iron safes suitable for dwellings; also, a beautiful collection of stuffed birds arranged in groups, singly and under glass shades.

M. DOUGHTY, Auctioneer.

WILL SELL, THIS MORNING, AT 10½ o'clock, at the salesroom No. 79 Nassau-st., a large assortment of new and second-hand furniture, rosewood parlor suites, Brussels carpets, bookcases, pier glasses, marble-top centre tables, bedsteads, bureaus, washstands, toilet sets and lounges, tête-à-têtes, chairs, rockers, &c.; the whole to be sold by virtue of a chattel mortgage.

Also,

By order of Constable, two fine gold watches and one rosewood piano-forte.

EDWARD H. LUDLOW, Auctioneer.

988 ACRES OF VALUABLE WISCONSIN SCHOOL LANDS AT AUCTION.—E. H. LUDLOW & CO. will sell at auction on FRIDAY Dec. 15, 1857, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange, Wisconsin School Lands—988 acres of excellent school lands, in the counties of Jackson, &c., &c. Full particulars at the office of the auctioneer, No. 14 Pine-st., Commonwealth Bank Building.

SIMEON DRAPER, Auctioneer.

BY SIMEON DRAPER, OFFICE NO. 46 PINE-ST., CORNER OF WILLIAM.—Regular Auction Sales at the Merchants' Exchange EVERY DAY. Stocks and Bonds bought and sold at Private Sale.

SALE THIS DAY, at 12½ o'clock. See Catalogue.

B. J. WARDEN, Auctioneer.

LARGE AND SPECIAL SALE OF SADDLES—Single and double, new and second-hand harness; horse blankets, robes and sleigh bells; being the balance from our last sale, on FRIDAY, Dec. 11, at 10½ o'clock, at No. 280 Pearl-st.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

NOTICE TO BUILDERS.—PROPOSALS FOR A STATE ARSENAL.—Sealed proposals will be received until the 15th day of December, at the office of the Commissary General, corner of Elm and White sts., New York, for the work and materials of a State Arsenal to be erected on the corner of 7th-av. and 35th-st., New-York. The work will be let as a whole or in five separate contracts, viz.: masonry, carpentry, iron, slating, and plumbing; the last to include tinning and gas fitting. Ample security will be required from the contractors, and such as the Commissioners will approve. The contracts will be awarded within three days after the expiration of the time in which the bids are to be received, and the person or persons to whom the said contract or contracts are awarded will be required to enter into contract within two days after such award is made by the Commissioners. Plans, specifications, and forms and terms of contracts, proposals, &c., may be examined at the office of CLEVELAND & BACKUS BROTHERS, Architects, Mechanics' Bank Building, No. 33 Wall-st.

B. F. BRUCE.
FREDERICK TOWNSEND, } Commissioners.
J. H. HOBART WARD,

NEW-YORK, Dec. 4, 1857.

OFFICE OF THE NEW-YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY.—ALBANY, Nov. 3, 1857.—The annual election for Directors of this Company, and for three Inspectors of the next election, will be held at the office of the Company, in the Exchange, in the city of Albany, on the second WEDNESDAY (the 9th) of December next. The poll will open at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and will continue open for two hours thereafter. By order of the Board of Directors.

GILBERT L. WILSON, Secretary.

NOTICE.—A LETTER ADDRESSED TO PETER VREDENBURGH, Esq., Freehold, N. J., containing certificate No. 2,406 for 50 shares Illinois Central Railroad Company Stock, in the name of the said Vredenburgh, $30 per share, paid and mailed on the 4th day of April last in this City having miscarried, notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Company for the issue of a new certificate for said shares in place of the same.

NEW-YORK, Oct. 12, 1857.

OFFICE OF RECEIVER OF TAXES, (New Court-House,) No. 32 Chambers-st. New-York, Nov. 1, 1857.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT 1 per cent. will be added, on the 1st day of December, on all taxes remaining unpaid. Also, that 2 per cent will be added on the 15th day of December.

Checks and bills on City Banks taken. Envelopes containing money and bills not received. No money received after 2 o'clock. WILSON SMALL, Receiver.

NOTICE.—THE COMMITTEE ON LANDS AND** Places will meet in Room No. 8 City Hall, on THURSDAY, the 16th inst., at 12 o'clock M., to take into consideration the subject of employing laboring men on the Central Park at 3 and 5 shillings per day; also the propriety of repealing that appropriation of $250,000. All parties cognizant of the facts are requested to attend. The Central Park Commissioners are also requested to be present.

WM. WILSON, Chairman.

OFFICE OF RECEIVER OF TAXES.—NO. 32 Chambers-st., New-York, Dec. 4, 1857.—Notice is hereby given that on all taxes remaining unpaid on the 1st day of January next interest will be added, at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, from the 7th day of September last to the date of payment. No money received after 2 o'clock. WILSON SMALL, Receiver of Taxes.

INSURANCE.

BRITISH COMMERCIAL
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.
$5,500,000 ACCUMULATED CAPITAL.
No. 66 Wall-st.

This Company has been 37 years in successful operation, and has paid to the families of the insured $4,450,000.
No extra charge for crossing the Atlantic.
California and Southern risks taken.
Last bonus to policy holders was 35 per cent.
Application may be made by mail.
Insurances can be made, payable on the party's reaching the ages of 50 or 60.

GEO. M. KNEVITT, Actuary.

INVENTORS.—CASILEAR & CO.'S PATENT AGENCY OFFICE.—All business connected with procuring patents promptly executed. For further information, apply to or address CASILEAR & CO., No. 343 Broadway, New-York. United States passports issued.

FINANCIAL.

REMITTANCES TO ENGLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES

WE ISSUE SIGHT BILLS ON THE

UNION BANK OF LONDON;
NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND,
BELFAST BANKING COMPANY, IRELAND.

In sums of £1 upwards, at $5 per £.

Address,

TAYLOR BROTHERS, Bankers,
No. 76 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK.

BANKING AND COLLECTION OFFICE.

SMALLEY, WEED & BARTLETT,

No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,

Having reliable correspondents, will collect paper payable at all accessible points in the United States and Canadas at a commission of one-quarter of 1 per cent., and proceeds delivered to our customers promptly on the day received.

Our firm will continue to be represented at the Stock Exchange Board, and will attend pro mptly to all orders for the purchase and sale of bonds and stocks. Our transactions at the Board being strictly on commission, we are enabled to give entire satisfaction to those who may favor us with their orders.

References—Moses Taylor, Esq., Wm. B. Astor, Esq., New-York.

PROPOSALS FOR A LOAN TO CHICAGO, BURLINGTON AND QUINCY RAILROAD COMPANY.—Sealed proposals will be r ceived by the undersigned, at office No. 48 City Exchange, Boston, up to the 8th day of January next, at 1 o'clock P. M., for a loan of $400,000, in money, payable as follows:

10 Ten per cent. on the 15th of January, 1858, which first installment the Company will retain without issuing bonds therefor until the last installment is paid.
25 Twenty-five per cent. on the 15th of February, 1858.
25 Twenty-five per cent. on the 15th of March, 1858.
20 Twenty per cent. on the 15th of April, 1858.
20 Twenty per cent, on the 15th of May, 1858.
100

For which bonds will be issued against each payment.

For which the Company will issue 8 per cent. bonds of $1,000 each, dated 1st January, 1858, with semi-annual coupons, and having 25 years to run.

The proposals will be opened at the office No. 48 City Exchange, Boston, on the 8th day of January next, at 1 o'clock P. M., in the presence of the Board of Directors of the Company, who will award without reserve to the highest responsible bidders.

A circular will shortly be issued giving full information as to the financial condition of the Company, and the form of security to be given for the above-named loan. By order of the Board. J. W. BROOKS,
EDWARD L. BAKER,
Committee.

BOSTON, Dec. 8, 1857.

PARTIES HOLDING COUPONS OF THE First Mortgage Bonds of the Manitowoc and Mississippi Railroad Company, and of the Bonds of the villages of Manitowoc and Menasha, Wisconsin, will present the same to Messrs. FOSTER & THOMAS, Attorneys, No. 60 Wall-st., parties are hereby cautioned against purchasing any of the bonds of this Company, except those numbered from one to fifty inclusive, as all others have been surreptitiously obtained; and also against purchasing any of the Village Bonds of the village of Menasha, Wisconsin, numbered from one to twenty-six inclusive, as the same were improperly delivered, the Company having received no consideration therefor.

OFFICE OF THE CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURG RAILROAD CO.—CLEVELAND, Nov. 27, 1857—The annual meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at the office of the Company in the City of CLEVELAND, on TUESDAY, the 5th day of January next, at 10 o'clock A. M., for the election of twelve Directors and transaction of other business, and especially to authorize an increase of the capital stock under the provisions of an act of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, passed April 15, 1857. By order of the Board. E. ROCKWELL, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY, NEW-YORK, Nov. 10 1857.—Notice is hereby given that the Subscription Book for the proposed New Loan of this Company, is now open at its office, No. 60 Wall-st. It is the interest of the Stockholders and creditors, as also of the holders of Optional Rights, to call and examine the terms of this Loan, and satisfy themselves of the great advantage to accrue to them respectively by subscribing to the same.

J. N. PERKINS, Treasurer.

CASH ORDERS FOR THE PURCHASE and sale of Stocks and Bonds solicited by MEIGS & GREENLEAF, No. 23 William-st., New-York.

REFERENCES—Bank of the Republic, American Exchange Bank, Metropolitan Bank, Merchants' Bank.

BROWN, BROTHERS & CO., NO. 59 WALL-st., issue credits for Commercial and Traveling purposes, available in any part of the world.

BANK NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE subscriber has been duly appointed by the Honorable Superior Court, now in session at Brooklyn, within and for the County of Windham, Receiver of all the evidences of debt, goods, effects, &c., of the Granite Bank of Voluntown, in said County, and that said Court has limited the term of sixty days, from the 10th day of November, 1857, for the bill-holders and other creditors of said Bank to exhibit their claims to the subscriber, duly attested and proved, or be debarred recovery.—Dated at Danielsonville, Conn., Nov. 18, 1857.

A. D. LOCKWOOD, Receiver.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION, No. 69 Warren-st., one door from Greenwich-st.—Interest at the rate of six per cent. on sums from $1 to $500. Open daily from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M., and on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from 4 to 7 P. M.

V. L. BUXTON, Sec'y. W. W. CONCKLIN, Pres.

PACIFIC BANK.—NEW-YORK, NOV. 10, 1857.—The Board of Directors have this day declared a dividend of four per cent., payable on and after the 1st day of December. The Transfer Book will be closed from the 20th inst. to the 1st prox. By order of the Board.

R. BUCK, Cashier.

METROPOLITAN BANK, NO. 108 BROADWAY.—New-York, December 8, 1857. The balance of the increased Capital Stock of this Bank is required to be paid on or before Tuesday, the 22d inst. By order.

GEO. I. SENEY, Cashier.

BANK OF NEW-YORK.—NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the second installment of $25 per share on the new subscription to the stock of the Bank of New-York, payable on the 2d of January next, will not be called for until further notice.

W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

MARINERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION—3d-av., corner 9th-st., open daily from 8 A. M. to 2 P. M., and on Wednesday and Saturday from 5 to 8 P. M. Interest allowed on deposits. I. T. SMITH, Sec.

DIVIDENDS.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.—OFFICE DELAWARE and Hudson Canal Company, New-York, D. c. 7, 1857. The Board of Managers of this Company have declared a semi-annual dividend of four per cent. out of the profits of the Company, payable on and after SATURDAY, the 26th inst., at the office of the Company, No. 29 Williamst., corner of Exchange-place. The transfer books are now closed, and will remain closed until the morning of the 21st inst. By order of the Board.

ISAAC N. SEYMOUR, Treasurer.

KNICKERBOCKER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW-YORK, Nov. 21, 1857.

DIVIDEND.—THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS have this day declared a dividend of 10 per cent. on the capital stock, payable on and after the first day of December next.

The transfer-books will be closed from 23d instant until Dec. 1. By order. GEO. HODGSDON, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN FIRE INS. CO., No. 6 Wall-st., Dec. 1, 1857.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF this Company have declared a dividend of eight per cent. upon the capital stock, payable on and after the 3d day of December, 1857. R. W. BLEECKER, Secretary.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF the Howard Insurance Company have declared a dividend of twelve per cent. upon the capital stock, payable on and after the 7th day of December, 1857.

HENRY A. OAKLEY, Secretary.

CITIZENS' FIRE INSURANCE CO., NEW-YORK, Dec. 3, 1857

DIVIDEND.—A DIVIDEND OF TEN PER CENT. has been declared this day, payable on demand at the office No. 67 Wall-st. J. M. MCLEAN, Sec'y.

WATCHES AND JEWELRY.

GREAT REDUCTION.
WATCHES AND JEWELRY,
AT GREAT BARGAINS FOR CASH,

The subscriber is now selling his stock of WATCHES AND JEWELRY At a great REDUCTION in PRICES, being fully 30 per cent. below the usual retail prices.

Gold English Patent Levers, full jewelled, for gentlemen ..... $60, usual price $85
Gold English Patent Levers, full jewelled, for gentlemen ..... $50, usual price $76
Beautiful Gold Detached Levers, in very rich cases ..... $45, usual price $75
Beautiful Gold Detached Levers, in very rich cases ..... $45, usual price $62
Beautiful Gold Detached Levers, in very rich cases ..... $35, usual price $50
Beautiful Gold Detached Levers, in very rich cases ..... $25, usual price $35
Beautiful Gold Lepine Watches, four holes jeweled ..... $20, usual price $30
Silver English Patent Levers ..... $20, usual price $30
Silver English Patent Levers ..... $28, usual price $42
Watches exchanged. GEO. C. ALLEN,
Importer of Watches and Jewelry,
Wholesale and Retail, No. 11 Wall-st.,
second-floor, near Broadway.

INSTRUCTION.

ALONZO FLACK, A. M.,
Principal of Hudson River Institute at Claverack, N. Y., Offers board and tuition for $120 a year.
(Next term opens Jan. 2.)

LANDSCAPE DRAWING AND PAINTING FROM NATURE—In the most desirable system known, taught at No. 231 6th-av., by its author, S. WOOD, Jr. "His pupils' pictures, after 15 lessons, would do credit to veteran artists."—*Boston Commonwealth.*

MOUNT WASHINGTON COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE—No. 218 4th-st., corner of Macdougal-st., opened its fifteenth school-year on Monday, Sept. 14. GEO. W. CLARKE, JAMES FANNING, Principals.

FRENCH IN 60 LESSONS.—$5 PER QUARTER.—METHODE ROBERTSON.—French classes at No. 10 Waverley-place, near Broadway.

$130 PER YEAR—BOARD AND TUITION.—Ashland Collegiate Institute, Greene County, N. Y. Students received at any time. Circulars &c. No. 122 Nassau-st., up stairs.

LAND WARRANTS.

U. S. PASSPORTS—INDISPENSABLE TO TRAVELERS—Issued through J. B. NONES, Notary Public, and Commissioner of all the States, No. 1½ Warren-st. Naturalized citizens must produce certificates. Bounty Lands, Pensions, Extra Pay, &c., procured.

FOR EUROPE.

FOR ENGLAND AND FRANCE, 1857 AND 1858.—NEW-YORK AND HAVRE STEAMSHIP COMPANY.—The United States Mail steamship ARAGO, 2,500 tons, DAVID LINES, Commander, and steamship FULTON, 2,500 tons, J. A. WOTTON, Commander, will leave New-York, Havre and Southampton for the year 1858 on the following days:

LEAVE NEW-YORK:		LEAVE HAVRE:	
Arago, Saturday,	Nov. 14.	Fulton, Tuesday,	Nov. 17.
Fulton, Saturday,	Dec. 12.	Arago, Tuesday,	Dec. 15.
Arago, Saturday,	Jan. 9.	Fulton, Tuesday,	Jan. 12.
Fulton, Saturday,	Feb. 6.	Arago, Tuesday,	Feb. 9.
Arago, Saturday,	M'h. 6.	Fulton, Tuesday,	M'h. 9.
Fulton, Saturday,	April 3.	Arago, Tuesday,	April 6.
Arago, Saturday,	May 1.	Fulton, Tuesday,	May 4.
Fulton, Saturday,	May 29.	Arago, Tuesday,	June 1.
		Fulton, Tuesday,	June 29.

These steamers, built expressly for Government service, with double engines under deck; every care has been taken in the construction of hull and machinery to insure safety and speed. The ships have five water-tight compartments, inclosing the engines, so that in the event of collision or stranding, the water could not reach them, and the pumps being free to work, the safety of the vessel and passengers would be secured. Recent experience has demonstrated the absolute necessity of this mode of construction. The accommodations for passengers are believed to combine every comfort and convenience that can be desired.

PRICE OF PASSAGE:

From New-York to Southampton & Havre, 1st Cabin, $130
From New-York to Southampton & Havre, 2d Cabin 75
From Havre or Southampton to New-York, 1st Cabin, 800f.
From Havre or Southampton to New-York, 2d Cabin, 400f.

To passengers going to London, these steamers offer the advantage of economy, both in time and expense.

Specie delivered in London.
No passage secured until paid for.
An experienced surgeon on board.
All letters and newspapers must pass through the Post-Office.

For freight or passage, apply to W. S. DRAYTON, Agent, No. 7 Broadway; WM. ISELIN, Agent, Havre; CROSKEY & CO., Agents, Southampton; LIVINGSTON, WELLS & CO., Paris.

THE NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.—The ships comprising this line are:

The ATLANTIC, Capt. OLIVER ELDRIDGE.
The BALTIC, Capt. JOSEPH COMSTOCK.
The ADRIATIC, Capt. JAMES WEST.

These ships have been built by contract expressly for Government service, every care has been taken in their construction, as also in their engines, to insure strength and speed; and their accommodations for passengers are unequaled for elegance and comfort.

Price of passage from New-York to Liverpool, in first cabin, $130; in second do., $75 Exclusive use of extra size state rooms, $375. From Liverpool to New-York, 30 and 20 guineas. An experienced surgeon attached to each ship. No berth can be secured until paid for. The ships of this line have improved water-tight bulk heads.

PROPOSED DATES OF SAILING.

FROM NEW-YORK.		FROM LIVERPOOL.	
Saturday, June 20	1857	Wednesday, June 24	1857
Saturday, July 4	1857	Wednesday, July 8	1857
Saturday, July 18	1857	Wednesday, July 22	1857
Saturday, Aug. 1	1857	Wednesday, Aug. 5	1857
Saturday, Aug. 15	1857	Wednesday, Aug. 19	1857
Saturday, Sept. 12	1857	Wednesday, Sept. 2	1857
Saturday, Sept. 26	1857	Wednesday, Sept. 30	1857
Saturday, Oct. 10	1857	Wednesday, Oct. 14	1857
Saturday, Oct. 24	1857	Wednesday, Oct. 28	1857
Saturday, Nov. 7	1857	Wednesday, Nov. 11	1857
Saturday, Nov. 21	1857	Wednesday, Nov. 25	1857
Saturday, Dec. 5	1857	Wednesday, Dec. 9	1857
		Wednesday, Dec. 24	1857

For freight or passage, apply to
EDWARD K. COLLINS, No. 56 Wall-st., New-York.
BROWN, SHIPLEY & CO., Liverpool.
STEPHEN KENNARD & C

NEW-YORK CITY.

Dr. Charles Mackay, on English Songs and Song-Writers.

Dr. CHARLES MACKAY delivered the second of his course of lectures on "The National Songs of England, Ireland and Scotland" at Mozart Hall, Broadway, on Monday evening. The audience was much larger than on the former occasion, the room being nearly filled.

The subject of the lecture, said Dr. MACKAY, was English Song. It would be necessary to go back, in commencing a review of the subject, to the very earliest period, when was found no authentic record of song. The Druids were seers as well as poets, but of their songs no traces had come down to us. The Bards succeeded the Druids, and their songs, mostly in praise or descriptive of battles, were dimly presented to us through the mist of tradition, as in the case of the songs of OSSIAN, gathered by MACPHERSON, among the Highlands. At a later time we have King Arthur, King Cole, and King Merwyn, all embodied in SAXON song, and which took as much hold on the popular mind in that day, as the tales of COOPER, or any other eminent writer, had on the minds of the English or American readers in the present day.

Succeeding these were the minstrels of the Norman era, who held a high position in popular estimation, and who were not only poets and musicians, but newspaper editors and reporters, and, to a certain extent, play-actors also, because they put into verse the latest murder and the last love tragedy, and produced as much effect in that day as JENNY LIND or the latest ballet company from Paris do in the present. The ballads of Chevy Chase, Fair Rosamond, Robin Hood, and the Babes in the Wood, were instances of this minstrel art of turning the striking incidents of the time into verse. The minstrels traveled all over the country singing or reciting them, and were everywhere welcome visitors. The invention of printing wrought a change, however. By degrees they ceased to be favorites of the wealthy; they found their patrons among the poor, and became, at last, almost like mountebanks at country fairs. AN ACT, passed in the reign of ELIZABETH, branded them as strollers, which term, by a little extension, might be made in the present day, to include THACKERAY or any other lecturer.

After glancing at some of the characters in CHAUCER'S *Canterbury Tales*,—such as the Poor Scholar and the Mendicant Friar, who were wandering singers and minstrels, the lecturer quoted some examples of the songs of CHAUCER'S and of a still later day, but none later than the reign of HENRY VII. which were printed on large sheets of paper, and termed "broadsides," of which several specimens were preserved in the British Museum. This class of song still existed in England, and was to be found not at country fairs only, but in London, pinned against the walls of buildings, and sold at the rate of a penny a yard, or fifty songs for a half-penny. HENRY VIII., notwithstanding his love-making, wife-killing occupations, and his quarrels with WOLSEY, found time to write songs, one of which is printed by HORACE WALPOLE in his *Royal and Noble Authors*.

Among the singing birds of that twilight of literature, were the unfortunate Earl of SURREY, and the equally unfortunate Sir THOMAS WYAT, who both suffered for treason on Tower Hill at a time when it was not well defined what treason was. At length daylight broke, and the Elizabethan dramatists, with SPENSER, DANIEL, DRAYTON, and others, came upon the scene. Then English poetry entered upon its golden age. The ballad was then left entirely to the common people, although many of these were in the highest degree poetical. Among them were the celebrated Poaching Song, "It's my delight of a shiny night," and the Mariner's Glee. The best of the ballads of this and subsequent periods were preserved in PERCY'S *Reliques*.

Of memorable names about this time, were WILLIAM TARLETON and MARTIN PARKER, the latter of whom was the author of the well-known song, "Ye gentleman of England,"—which was the model of CAMPBELL'S "Mariners of England." The song-writers of SHAKESPEARE'S time were many and excellent. Among them were two or three who wrote songs almost as well as he did,—none wrote them better. There were BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, BEN JONSON, THOMAS HEYWOOD, CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE, GEORGE WITHER, CAREW, DONNE, RALEIGH, WOTTON, LOVELACE and GEORGE HERBERT. Some of BEN JONSON'S songs were exquisite: "Drink to me only with thine eyes," for instance. That of Sir HENRY WOTTON, "You meaner beauties of the Night," and that of WITHER, "Shall I, wasting with despair," were glorious songs of this period. The songs of HERRICK possessed the highest melody, and were full of luxuriant charms. How beautiful was that one, "Gather ye rosebuds while you may." But SHAKESPEARE was the king of song-writers. It might be said that had he not been the greatest of dramatists, he would have been the greatest of epic poets, the greatest of historians, the greatest of lawyers, or anything else he directed his mind to. He certainly would have been the greatest of song-writers. The songs scattered through his plays were priceless gems. "Under the Greenwood Tree," for instance, and "Take, oh, take those lips away." The age succeeding SHAKESPEARE produced MILTON, COWLEY, WALLER, DRYDEN, and a host of inferior men. All of these attempted song-writing, but MILTON was incomparably the greatest. He was a musician, and understood the niceties of rhythm which songs require. Placed on the cold, snowy summits of Parnassus, we think him too lofty for our love, but in the perusal of "Comus," "Penseroso," "Lycidas," we take him to our heart, and lose some of our reverence for him in the new love we feel. One of the finest lyrics in any language is his song to MAY Morning. "Now the bright morning star, day's harbinger," &c.

COWLEY, though a great poet, did not excel in song-writing. Like Sir WALTER SCOTT, he could not tell one tune from another, but he left one bacchanalian song behind him which is still sung by boon companions, "The Thirsty Earth Drinks up the Rain." DRYDEN'S songs were fitter for music than COWLEY'S, but are still less adapted for modern ears, and are now altogether banished. He belonged to a bad, licentious age, the restoration of CHARLES the Second. A period of false pretences followed that age of unblushing effrontery, when Love went in masquerade—when every lover was a shepherd, dressed in silver shoon, wearing a Court dress, and was called Strephon or Adonis, and when every young lady was an Arcadian shepherdess, richly dressed in a spangled silk dress reaching only to her knees, and was called Chloe or Sophonisba. There was then no such thing as love in literature, but Cupid was constantly "shooting his darts" instead. Nobody talked of marriage, but of the "altar of Hymen." England might have been almost a Pagan nation. Even a light breeze was not called a breeze, but was a Zephyr; the north wind was Boreas, the sun, Phœbus, the moon, Diana.

CAREY, the supposed author of "God save the King," COLLINS, D'URFEY, THOMSON, GAY, GARRICK, (who wrote "Hearts of oak are our ships, hearts of oak are our men,") PERCY, whose song, "Oh, Nannie, wilt thou go with me?" had been so highly lauded by BURNS, CHARLES DIBDIN, the national songster of England, THOMAS DIBDIN, CAMPBELL, HAYNES BAYLEY, and BARRY CORNWALL, were successively alluded to, and quoted by the lecturer, who concluded by reciting an original poem. During the delivery of his lecture Dr. MACKAY was frequently and warmly cheered.

Charles Mackay on the Songs of Scotland and Ireland.

Last night Dr. MACKAY delivered the third and concluding lecture of his series, which was devoted to the songs and song-writers of Scotland and Ireland. The songs of either country, he said, would afford materials for a whole lecture, rather than a part of one. Of the popular ballad poetry of Scotland little was known before the invention of printing. Just as England had her minstrels, the Highlands had their bards, and the Lowlands their scalds. The earliest allusion to Scottish song occurred in the pages of an old historian, who says that they were sung in hatred and disdain of Englishmen. Scottish song and ballad, though more cultivated by ploughmen and shepherds than by persons of rank, has had its royal and noble authors. The first of these was JAMES STUART, son of ROBERT III., who, 452 years ago, during a melancholy captivity of 19 years in England, wrote "The King's Quhair," in which the beauty of his mistress, ANNE BEAUFORT, was rapturously praised, for love seemed to have made him a poet, as it had far greater and more modern bards. This lady he afterwards married, and when he returned from captivity to his own country, and was crowned, at Scone, JAMES I. of Scotland, she was crowned with him as his Queen. Scotch literature owes much to him. His history as the first of his race, foreshadowed that of all who bore his name. He inherited misery and a crown at the same time. His lot was cast in an evil day, and he was at length murdered by conspirators, who broke into his chamber and slew him at the feet of his wife. He introduced the refinements of English literature into his native tongue, and was the first to create those peculiarly plaintive and tender melodies which have made Scottish literature famous throughout the world. His reputation extended to Italy, where a historian of a succeeding age said that he not only wrote sublime poetry, but invented a new species of music. Scotch tradition assigns to him wonderful inventions and discoveries, in stories almost rivaling those told in the *Arabian Nights*, of the Kaliph Haroun Alraschid. Among his principal works are "Christ's Kirk on the Green," "The Gaberlunzie," and the popular song, "We'll gang nae more a roaming, so late into the night," is said to be his, also. But tradition is not always to be depended on, as to the authorship of these ancient ballads, for many of those attributed to JAMES I. were also credited to JAMES V., father of MARY, Queen of Scots.

For a century after this time, wars and other intestine troubles caused an interregnum of poetry, except such as was sung by wandering minstrels, just as the birds sing, and which as little recorded. The next great name was that of JAMES V., of whom DRUMMOND, of Hawthornden, said that he was so naturally given to poetry that he almost talked to it. One of his poems, "Jock and Jeanie," was written in a dialect more uncouth than CHAUCER, or JAMES I.

Queen MARY, his daughter, said the lecturer, though no poetess herself, has inspired more poetry than any woman since the days of Helen of Troy. CHATELLAT, her Secretary, inspired by her beauty, composed songs in her praise, and gave Scottish song that wonderful melody it has since retained. RIZZIO, her infatuated and unfortunate lover, in songs of his composition, gave to Scottish song the tenderness of Italian music.

The Reformation was not without its influence on music and song. Many of the tunes used in the Roman Catholic Church were seized and adapted to comic songs, such as "We're Nid, Nid, Nodding," "John Anderson, my Jo, John." In reference to these Godly GEDDES said, that the angels had composed the Scottish airs, and that the devil had written the words.

Scotland, however, at this time was more famed for ballads than songs. There were hundreds, if not thousands of them, in the collections published by PINKERTON, SCOTT, CUNNINGHAM, MOTHERWELL, CHAMBERS, and others. It has, however, been discovered that a large portion of the ballads of Scotland were not older than the seventeenth century. The ballad of "Sir Patrick Spence," for instance, so great a favorite with COLERIDGE and Sir WALTER SCOTT, was written by Lady WARDOUR, who died in 1727. The authorship of most of these ballads could not be ascertained. Father PROUT, with his ingenious translations, brought many people to believe that MOORE had stolen his melody from the Greek and Latin. CAMPBELL'S "Exile of Erin" was said to have been stolen from a hedge schoolmaster. WOLFE'S "Death of Sir John Moore" was also said to have had another author, and the song of "Cheer, Boys, Cheer," with the author of which (said Dr. MACKAY, blushing,) I happen to be particularly and intimately acquainted, has been attributed to a Scottish lady, who happened to write a parody on it. The controversy as to its authorship occupied several articles in the Scottish newspapers, and in "Notes and Queries," and is not yet ended. If such is the case with the authorship of modern songs we cannot wonder that the authorship of old songs, and of those written before the invention of printing, is often impossible to be ascertained.

The lecturer proceeded to pass in review the songs of ALLEN RAMSAY, scattered throughout his "Gentle Shepherd," remarking that the mechanics and peasants of Scotland disputed with men of education and rank, the honors of song. RAMSAY was a barber, FERGUSON a sailor, BURNS a ploughman, HOGG a shepherd, TANNAHILL a weaver, CUNNINGHAM a stone-mason. Among the higher classes, there were Lord BERNADALBANE, Lady ANNA LYNDSAY, who wrote "Auld Robin Gray," the Duke of GORDON, Sir WALTER SCOTT, Mrs GRANT, of Logan, and Mrs. CRAWFORD. Among these song-writers RAMSAY stands high, though his fame was afterwards altogether eclipsed by the genius of BURNS. MICKLE, who wrote "There's nae luck about the house;" SKINNER and MCNEIL, were deserving of mention; and to the list of good Scottish songs might be added the Jacobite lyrics, which were wedded to most lovely music.

At length appeared ROBERT BURNS, and before the glory of his muse all other stars "paled their ineffectual fires." Sir WALTER SCOTT might be better known throughout the world, but BURNS was dear to the Scottish peasant, was cherished in the humblest cot and the lowliest shieling. His songs were unequaled in the whole range of literature, he was the greatest song writer the world had yet produced. Whether his songs were wholly his own, or whether he picked up some fragment of verse from an unknown author which had floated down the stream of time, his potency was equally great. Contrast his "Auld Lang Syne" with RAMSAY'S "Old Long Syne" and mark the difference between genius and talent.

Dr. MACKAY, after a brief notice of ALLAN CUNNINGHAM, TANNAHILL and HOGG, proceeded to consider the Songs of Ireland. They had not, he said, with few exceptions, that distinctive character which belonged to English and Scotch song. The famous songs "St. Patrick's Day in the Morning," "Paddy Carey" and others of the same class were the compositions of Englishmen. Ireland has great ancient music of her own, but no ancient songs, unless in the Celtic or Erse language. THOMAS MOORE was the first to establish a song-writing reputation for his country, but even in his best songs, it cannot be said by his most enthusiastic admirers that he is the equal of BURNS. He was not the poet of the people, but of the aristocratic circles, of Dukes and Countesses, of people who gave good dinners. When he wrote of the wrongs of Ireland, then, indeed, he became inspired, but after all, it was not the flight of the eagle, but of a small bird. His most popular songs were essentially English, not Irish; the "Last Rose of Summer," for instance, and "Come, rest in this bosom."

Two living writers, CHARLES LEVER, and SAMUEL LOVER, were, the lecturer thought, more truly national than their great predecessor, MOORE. LEVER'S military songs were the best in the language. England had no military songs worth the name, and Scotland had but one, "Scots, wha hae wi' Wallace bled."

To be an English or American song-writer, Dr. MACKAY considered one of the greatest honors a man could enjoy. The Spanish and Italians had fine languages, but they were overridden by despotism, and song in its freedom could not flourish except in free countries. Literature could not be built up under such circumstances—it was as impossible as to build a house without a foundation, or to sail a ship without water.

The lecturer concluded his discourse by reciting two original poems. He was loudly cheered throughout the lecture.

Board of Councilmen.

The Board of Councilmen met on Thursday evening, the President J. N. PHILLIPS, Esq., in the Chair.

The Chairman desired that members of the Board would not leave until the adjournment. At the last meeting business was necessarily left unfinished in consequence of the absence of a quorum to present to the Chair the report of the Committee of the Whole.

A great number of petitions were presented from persons praying to be paid for fitting up election polls, and from parties anxious to be appointed Commissioners of Deeds.

A resolution was offered directing the Comptroller to draw his warrant for $250 for the payment of Walter S. Pinckney for services as Clerk to the Committee on Assessments of both Boards. Referred to Committee of the Whole.

MANAGEMENT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

An ordinance modifying the management of the Fire Department was called up by Councilman KENNARD, and read. Its especial provisions are to prevent crowds from congregating around the engine houses, to forbid firemen from lounging about the doors, to prevent the intrusion of fire engines on the sidewalks, &c.

The ordinance was lost for want of a Constitutional vote, but on its reconsideration some other matters of detail were considered.

Councilman BRADY asked if it were right that the engines should be washed on the sidewalk near churches on the Sabbath, and whether thieves and rowdies ought to be allowed to haunt the engine houses.

Councilman MONROE objected to the word "thieves." He knew of no thieves in the Fire Department.

Councilman BRADY did not charge the Department with containing thieves. But thieves got among them, and youths of improper character, and rowdies. He cited the case of a fireman who stole a pair of boots.

After further debate, it was moved and carried to lay the matter on the table.

The report of the Committee on Salaries and Offices in favor of increasing the salary of the first Clerk to the Corporation Attorney to $2,000 per annum, and the second Clerk to $1,500, was called up and read.

Councilman WARNER objected strongly. The office of the Corporation Attorney was of no use or value whatever, excepting for the collection of a few fines. The members of the Board did ten times as much work, and though they would not pay themselves reasonably, or vote for the increase from $4 to $8 each sitting, they were extremely anxious to vote for an increase, an unnecessary and useless increase, in the salaries of their friends.

Councilman OTTERSON was quite of the same opinion with the previous speaker as to the duty done in the Corporation Attorney's office, and the amount now paid for it. On vote, nine affirmed the increase, and thirty-two members voted against it.

After some debate a motion was carried, requesting the Corporation Counsel to determine and report whether or not certain land abutting on the river, the gas-works in Twenty-first-street, be or be not private property, it being asked that permission be given to erect thereon a pier for private purposes by the alleged owners.

It was moved to take from the table the report of the Committee on Fire Department in favor of paying Mr. Ira Buckman $250 for plans for a look-out on the City Hall, which plans have been mislaid or stolen, but of which he engages to furnish a duplicate set whenever required. Adopted.

On the question of adopting the report recommending that $235 be paid for the survey of the new avenue west of Broadway. There being no surveyor named in the report, Councilman BRADY would not vote for it. During debate it was stated that Lieut. Viele was the man; Councilman WAUGH was very severe upon Mr. Viele for the method of discharging his duties at the Central Park.

Councilman HASWELL defended Mr. Viele, and thought he gave the Democrats a fair portion of the work.

Councilman BRADY deprecated the tone of the debate. It was a curious thing to assume such reasons in voting for or against the payment of this bill. He merely wanted the man's name in the report. An amendment was offered to insert the name and it was carried. The report and resolution were adopted.

The Board then adjourned to Monday.

Committee on Lands and Places.

The Committee of the Board of Aldermen on Lands and Places met in the City Hall yesterday to inquire into the truth of the report that the Commissioners of the Central Park have been in the habit of employing laborers at the rate of from three to five shillings per day, and to consider the propriety of repealing the ordinance creating an issue of stock to the amount of $250,000 for improvements on the Park.

JOHN O'CONNELL deposed that he was employed by Mr. Hogg as a foreman at the rate of $1 50 per day, but he was paid only $1; after a few days he was superseded by Mr. Scorr, by order of Commissioner Hogg; the Commissioner asked Mr. O'CONNELL if he knew who of the men were going to vote for Mr. TIEMANN, and who for Mr. WOOD; he replied that there were two or three who would vote for TIEMANN and he knew nothing more about it; Mr. Hogg then told him that if he found out any person who would vote for Wood, that person would be discharged; that no person would be employed on the Park who was not a Black Republican. (The witness was asked whether Mr. Hogg used the word "black," he replied that he did.) Mr. O'CONNELL said he saw one of the foremen of the Park take some men on election day to the polls to vote, and that some of the men did but half a day's work that day; the evening previous to the election the foremen were ordered to the office, when it was understood they received instructions in relation to the voting of the men. He further stated that gardeners and nurserymen received $1 per day, and that the men employed in breaking stones could not earn more than from 30 to 60 cents per day.

Councilman BRIAN MCCAHILL stated to the Committee that he took a man to the Park to obtain employment, and Mr. Hogg asked if he intended to vote the Republican ticket or not.

MICHAEL KAVANAGH stated to the Committee that he had been employed breaking stones for five days and a half, for which he received $2 52. He had worked 10 hours each day. He had been told by others working there that they were worse off than he was, for they could not make as much as that.

THOMAS CARRIGAN, of tho Nineteenth Ward, said he received $1 50 for five and half days' work. The stones had to be broken so that they would pass through a ring 2½ inches in diameter.

Justice CONNOLLY stated to the Committee that two men went to him and made affidavits to the effect that they solicited work, and that Mr. Hogg told them they had not voted the Republican ticket at the last November election. They told them they had not; they had always been Democrats, that their families were starving, and that they wanted work. Mr. Hogg told one of them that if he would sign a bond to vote the Republican ticket at the next election he would put him to work on Monday. The conversation was on a Saturday. One of the men replied that although his family were starving he could not sell his principles, and he went away without work. Mr. CONNOLLY said he had recommended a man for employment, and that Mr. Hogg had told him it would be a long time before he obtained employment on such a recommendation.

Lieut. VIELE, the chief engineer, said it was his duty to designate the character of the work to be done. That his orders were received from the Commissioners, and that a large part of the work done was breaking stones. The stone was very hard, and some men could make more money than others. As far as the statements had been given, there were about 1,000 men now employed at the Park. The Superintendent employed the laborers. Lieut. VIELE had never seen the Commissioners interfere.

Mr. Hogg stated to the Committee that he was one of the Commissioners of the Central Park. The foremen receive 12 shillings per day, and there were from 12 to 70 men in a gang. They classified them as follows: Foremen, 12 shillings per day; double-truck men, $3 50 per day; single-truck men; $2 50; carmen, $2, for a horse, cart and man-laborers, $1. That had been paid from the commencement. Stone-breakers, 9 cents per cubic foot, and at that rate they could earn from 35 cents to $2 per day. He did not employ the foremen, nor supersede their employment; it was in the hands of the Superintendent. He had never employed men on the Park. All men excepting stone-breakers received $1 per day. He had employed men to paper and carpet the Wagstaffe House, (the office,) and a man breaking stone could average 90 cents per day, after two weeks. The Commissioners furnish the hammer and the ring, and all tools. The Commissioners had borrowed $30,000 from Mr. FLAGG, on the credit of the appropriation that had been made. He did not know what appropriation. The money had been taken. He made the arrangement with the bank. He supposed that there had been $60,000 expended up to this time, and thought there was about $20,000 of the borrowed $30,000 remaining. They paid the men every two weeks. All salaried men were paid once a month. The men first employed were mostly shoemakers and tailors, and they left in about two weeks. He thought that within that time about 300 had given up work. He did not know of a single one employed who did not reside within the City. At this time there were about 1,150 men employed.

The Committee having heard the evidence, adjourned to Saturday, in order to get a statement of expenses from Mr. GREEN, the Treasurer.

Decision in the Parish Will Case.

SURROGATE'S COURT—THURSDAY, Dec. 10.

In the matter of proving the last Will and Testament of Henry Parish, deceased.—The pressure of official engagements prevents me from giving at the present time any further exposition of my views in this case than a brief statement of the conclusions at which I have arrived.

1. The will bearing date 20th September, 1842, was a valid subsisting testamentary instrument at the time of the decedent's death, and remained unaltered and unrevoked, except to the precise extent and degree it was modified by the acts of the decedent subsequent to its date.

2. The decedent, by his attack in July, 1849, was not permanently deprived of testamentary capacity. His faculties, however, were enfeebled and impaired, and his power of mental manifestation was greatly affected.

3. For a case of this kind it becomes necessary to satisfy the Court, beyond the mere factum of the instrument, that its provisions were the free expression of the decedent's will.

4. It is proper, therefore, to inquire whether the act was reasonable, natural and probable; whether it was conformable to his known affections and dispositions, and consistent with his previous declarations and intentions; whether it was in favor of parties occupying positions of influence, and who were active in its suggestion and participated in its performance; whether the decedent was dependent upon the beneficiaries in his ordinary habits of life and the management of his property and affairs, and whether he was capable of giving and did give instructions and originate the provisions. Through these various lines of examination a conclusion may be obtained whether there is or is not affirmative proof in and of the instrument.

5. Placing my judgment upon these principles and their application to the proofs, I have determined that the evidence in respect to the codicil of September 15, 1853, and June 15, 1854, does not justify their establishment. That in view of the time of the execution of the codicil of August 29, 1849, the circumstances previous, attendant and subsequent, the state of the decedent's mind at that stage of his decease, and with a due regard to the subject of that instrument (the dwelling-house in Union-square and the Wall-street premises,) there is reason to conclude upon the evidence that the provisions of this codicil were in harmony with its wishes.

There must be a sentence admitting the will and the first codicil, and rejecting the other instruments propounded. The costs of the parties will be paid out of the estate. A.W. BRADFORD.

JUDGE FINN, yesterday, sat beside Judges BOSWORTH and WOODRUFF in the Superior Court General Term room all day long. He did and said nothing, although on the death of Judge OAKLEY the five surviving Judges on the bench of the Superior Court agreed to perform the duties of their late associate for the rest of his unexpired term, so that the salary might be given to the widow of the deceased Judge. None of the money has, as yet, been paid her. She was authorized to draw it by the Board of Supervisors, but the Comptroller declined to authorize her to do so.

ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED.—At 2½ yesterday morning, a German sailor named THOS. STROTHOFF, in attempting to get on board the ship *Twisho*, lying at the foot of Pier No. 12 East River, accidentally fell into the water and was drowned. The body was recovered and an inquest held yesterday morning, when a verdict was rendered of "accidental drowning."

[Advertisement.]

"Phrenology Applied to the Explanation of Man's Moral, Religious and Social Nature" is the subject of Mr. SIZER'S lecture this evening at Bleecker Buildings. Examinations daily at No. 308 Broadway.

[Advertisement.]

"KEEPING UP APPEARANCES" is, after all, one of the great affairs of human existence, and very properly, too. No man of any pretensions to fashion or gentility, now-a-days, neglects to purchase his HATS at KNOX'S, No. 212 Broadway, corner of Fulton-st., as it would be impossible to keep up appearances without.

[Advertisement.]

The "Revolt in India," and "Karmel the Scout." Both these fine pieces are to be performed at "PURDY'S National Theatre" to-night, and with them the farce of the "Three Shaws," if this does not crowd the house what will? All the favorites of the Company appear and also the "American Acrobats" in their wonderful feats of posturing, &c., &c. Go early.

[Advertisement.]

GAS, GAS.—Call at the great dépôt of ARCHER, WARNER & Co., No. 376 Broadway, for new gas-fixtures at Hard Times' prices. Selling off our entire stock.

[Advertisement.]

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Thousands of involuntary suicides are committed by persons who take the metallic poisons misnamed "specifics." These pills soothe, cleanse, regulate, and invigorate the diseased and enfeebled internal organs, instead of irritating and inflaming them like mercury, iron, and other mineral medicines.

[Advertisement.]

ONE DOLLAR FOR FIFTY CENTS.
300
MOHAIR ANTIQUE SILK VESTS,
Worth $3 50,
Selling for $1 50,
At
EVANS',
Nos. 66 and 68 Fulton-street,
Between Gold and Cliff streets.

[Advertisement.]

ONE DOLLAR FOR FIFTY CENTS.
200
VELVET VESTS,
Worth $5,
Selling for $2 50,
At
EVANS',
Nos. 66 and 68 Fulton-street.

[Advertisement.]

ONE DOLLAR FOR FIFTY CENTS.
250
BLACK SATIN VESTS,
Worth $3 50,
Selling for $1 75
At
EVANS',
Nos. 66 and 68 Fulton-street,
Between Gold and Cliff streets.

[Advertisement.]

ONE DOLLAR FOR FIFTY CENTS.
500 pair
BEAUTIFUL SIDESTRIPE CASSIMERE PANTS,
Worth $10,
Selling for $5,
At
EVANS',
Nos. 66 and 68 Fulton-street.

[Advertisement.]

ONE DOLLAR FOR FIFTY CENTS.
1,000 pairs
BLACK DOESKIN PANTS,
Worth $3 50,
Selling for $2 75,
At
EVANS',
Nos. 66 and 68 Fulton-street,
Between Gold and Cliff streets.

[Advertisement.]

ONE DOLLAR FOR FIFTY CENTS.
500 Pairs
CASSIMERE PANTS,
Worth $5,
Selling for $2 50,
At
EVANS',
Nos. 66 and 68 Fulton-street,
Between Gold and Cliff streets.

[Advertisement.]

ONE DOLLAR FOR FIFTY CENTS.
200
BEAVER OVERCOATS,
Worth $10,
Selling for $5,
At
EVANS',
Nos. 66 and 68 Fulton-street.

[Advertisement.]

ONE DOLLAR FOR FIFTY CENTS.
300
BLACK OVERCOATS,
Worth $6,
Selling for
$3,
At
EVANS',
Nos. 66 and 68 Fulton-street.

[Advertisement.]

ONE DOLLAR FOR FIFTY CENTS
150
BIGGERHEAD RAGLANS,
and
150
CANADA GRAY OVERCOATS,
Worth $10,
Selling for $5,
At
EVANS',
Nos. 66 and 68 Fulton-street,
Between Gold and Cliff streets.

[Advertisement.]

MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER.—In purity, delicacy, and durability as a perfume, and in its wonderful results when used as a cosmetic, this delightful toilet Water is to be preferred before the choicest French extracts. Sold by D. T. LANMAN & Co., Wholesale Druggists, No. 69 Water-st., and by all druggists, at 50 cents per bottle.

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HERRING'S PATENT CHAMPION FIRE-PROOF SAFES.—Nos. 135, 137 and 139 Water-street, and No. 261 Broadway, corner Murray-street, New-York.

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LONG ISLAND.

☞ The Savannah *Georgian* says of the fugitive who lately claimed the attention of the City Court of Brooklyn: "JIM, while in Savannah, put up as a free-and-easy gentleman at a first-class hotel, swore at the "lazy niggers" that would not wait on him, spent his money like a lord and dressed in the last mode de Paris, and always chose the highest folks to converse with. He was valued at $1,600, and has a wife in the North. He used to be engaged in a coffee house in Charleston."

THE MURDER TRIAL IN BROOKLYN.—The trial of SAMUEL KEYS in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, before Judge EMOTT and Justices EMMONS and SCHOONMAKER, for the murder of his wife, was concluded yesterday, and resulted in the conviction of the prisoner of manslaughter in the fourth degree. KEYS was immediately sentenced to two years imprisonment in the State Prison.

The testimony went to show that the immediate cause of death was the beating received at the hands of the prisoner; that deceased was very intemperate and that they lived unhappily together.

Before sentence was pronounced, KEYS denied that he ever kicked his wife, but kept silent as to striking her. He was born in Ireland and does not know his age.

NEW-JERSEY.

CONCERT FOR THE POOR OF HOBOKEN.—A vocal and instrumental concert, for the benefit of the poor of Hoboken, is to be given at Odd Fellows' Hall this evening, under the direction of MR. H. C. TIMM. Madame OTTO, Mrs. BRUSH, Miss LINA BEIER, Messrs. HAGEN, URCHS, WALTER and the Harmonia Singing Society have volunteered for the occasion. The expenses of the concert are defrayed by the Hoboken Fire Department and the Harmonia Singing Society, and the entire receipts are to be devoted to the assistance of the deserving poor of the city, to be disbursed by a Committee appointed for that purpose.

THE CINCINNATI BURGLAR.—CHARLES SMITH, the Cincinnati burglar, recently arrested in Jersey City, is still confined in the Hudson County Jail awaiting the requisition of the Governor of Ohio. When Mr. STREVE first came on, SMITH confessed to having committed the robbery, and offered to return to Cincinnati without waiting for a requisition; but he subsequently changed his mind, and is now determined not to go back until he is compelled to.

MILITARY.—The National Guard, the new military company recently organized in Jersey City, have elected their civil officers, as follows: President, DUDLEY S. GREGORY, Jr.; Secretary, B. F. GRINNEL; Treasurer, ANDREW J. BIXLEY.

The Jersey City Continentals, Capt. SANDERSON, are to parade for drill and improvement on Wednesday next.

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS.

For Markets see Third Page.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—DEC. 10.

$500	Ind. St. 2½s	53	200	Erie Railroad	s3 16¾
3,000	Virginia 6s	87½	100	do	s30 16¾
4,000	Missouri State 6s	77¾	100	do	c 16⅝
1,000	do	77¾	100	do	s10 16½
1,000	Cal. State 7s, '75	68	10	Hudson Riv. R. R.	19
1,000	Kentucky St. 6s	100	40	do	18¾
2,000	Erie R. 2d mt. bs.	89	50	do	18⅞
9,000	Ill. Cent. R. bs	c 82	300	Reading R. R.	s3 52
1,000	N.Y.Cen.R.R.6s.	81	200	do	s30 52
1,000	T.H. & Alt. 2d M.	50	25	Mich. Cen. R. R.	52⅝
4,000	M.Cen.RR.8 P ct.		50	M.S.& N. Ia. R. R.	18⅞
	1st M.S'ng Fund C.bs.	83½	55	M.S.& N.Ia.pref.s'k	32¾
28	Ocean Bank	71	100	do	32½
10	National Bank	99	50	do	32⅝
20	Penn. Coal Co	60	70	Panama R. R.	92
29	do	59¾	30	Ill. Cen. R. R.	c 86
21	do	60	90	do	s3 87⅛
200	do	b60 60	150	do	s3 87
75	Pac. M. S. Co.	68¾	50	do	s3 86
100	Cumb. Coal Co.	9½	79	Galena & Chic. R.	72¾
160	N. Y. Cen. R. R.	c 75	50	do	72¼
250	do	c 74¾	300	Clev. & Tol. R. R.	s3 42½
225	do	c 74½	200	do	b10 42½
100	do	s60 72¾	100	do	s10 42½
10	do	74½	200	do	b10 42½
25	do	74¾	200	do	b60 42½
208	do	74	250	La Crosse & Mill. R.	10½
50	do	73¾	50	do	s30 10¾
50	do	s10 73½	150	do	10¾
200	do	s10 73	200	do	b60 11
150	do	s15 72¼	15	Del. & Hud. C. Co.	100½
50	do	c 73¾	200	do	s30. 100¾
10	Chicago & R. I. R.	73¾			

MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER.—In purity, delicacy, and durability as a perfume, and in its wonderful results when used as a cosmetic, this delightful toilet Water is to be preferred before the choicest French extracts. Sold by D. T. LANMAN & Co., Wholesale Druggists, No. 69 Water-st., and by all druggists, at 50 cents per bottle.

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BETWEEN BOARDS.

The following sales of Bonds and Stocks were also made by S. DRAPER:

$4,000	California 7s	Int. added 62
$3,000	Missouri 6s	Int. added 74½
$2,000	New-York and Harlem R. 7s.	Int. added 65¾
$2,000	Hannibal and St. Josephs R. 7s.	Int. added 50
10	shares Artisans' Bank	64
11	shares Artisans' Bank	60
17	shares Artisans' Bank	54¾
12	shares Hanover Bank	77⅜
5	shares Bank of New-York	94¾
10	shares Bank of Commerce	93½
6	shares Continental Bank	87½
10	shares Bank of the Commonwealth	78
30	shares Peter Cooper Fire Ins. Co	101

Also, the following by ALBERT H. NICOLAY:

$1,300	Milwaukee & Superior R. R.	Int. add. 15⅜
$20,000	Chi., St. Paul & Fon du Lac RR.	Int. add. 38
$5,667 83	Ill. In. Imp. Int Stock of '49.	Int. add. 76¾
$3,000	Sandusky, Mans. & N. R.R.	Int. add. 40
$7,000	N. I. R. R. 7 P cent. G. B.	Int. add. 61@61¼
$5,000	W. and Mad. R.R. 1st M. 8s.	Int. add. 34@34½
$5,000	Belville & Ill. R.R. 7s.	Int. add. 53@53¼
$1,000	Penn. Coal Co. 6s	Int. add. 3
$6,000	Brooklyn City 6s	Flat. 91¼@91½
$3,000	T. H. & Al. R. 1st M. Bonds.	Flat. 59@59¼
$6,000	T. H. & Al. R. 1st. M. Bonds.	Flat. 59½
$7,000	T. H. & Al. R. 2d. M. 8s	Flat. 41

A Judgment agst Edmund C. Charles for $424